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monuments
destruction

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THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY MAY 16 1984

20p

Men charged with riot after pit rally violence

Chapter and verse
The Times Profile:
Kingsley Amis, novelist and poet.

BBC once
The Books page looks at the memoirs of Sir Ian Trehowen, former director-general of the BBC. James Fenton reviews the letters of Jean Rhys.

Touchdown
David Hands reports from Durban as England's rugby team begins its controversial tour of South Africa.

Keeping cool
Calmness in a sea of troubles. A Special Report on Saudi Arabia.

Baby death nursery criticized

A report of an inquiry into the death of a baby girl left outdoors for four hours at a council nursery on a cold day in February, severely criticizes procedures at the centre and recommends a reduction in the number of places. **Page 3**

US couple freed

A newly-married American couple kidnapped last week by separatist Tamil guerrillas were released unharmed yesterday in the Sri Lankan town of Jaffna.

'KGB threat'

Mr Denis Skinner (above): His widow feared she would be executed by the KGB for betraying her country. **Page 3**

Euro hopefuls

Nearly 280 candidates will fight the Euro elections in the UK on June 14. Conservative, Labour and the Alliance are contesting all 78 seats in England, Scotland and Wales. **Page 5**

Sealink ruling

European Ferries and P&O have been effectively barred from bidding for Sealink, British Rail's cross-Channel ferry business, because both have substantial ferry interests. **Page 15**

We see much more of each other now we're divorced...

Married again

Three couples found themselves "remarried" when their divorce decrees were rescinded in the family division of the High Court. **Page 2**

Botha denial

South Africa's Foreign Minister denied meeting Mr Sam Nujoma, after reports that Pretoria had proposed a Namibian national unity government to the Swapo leader. **Page 5**

Leader page 11

Letters: On saleroom losses, from Lord Astor of Hever; Libya, from Mr M-Y Al Maghariaf; food destruction, from Mr M Muggeridge. Leading articles: Diplomatic immunity; Namibia; Police and homosexuals. Features, pages 8-10. Rauff, the war criminal who cheated justice to the end; Robin Cook on Whitehall's pestilential rabbits. Spectrum: Living with Jesse Jackson. Wednesday Page: How miners' wives are coping. Obituary, page 12. Sir George Arthur, Professor A.H. Robertson. Classified, pages 21-26. La crème de la crème; property.

ICL chief in Moscow trade talks

By Jeremy Warner

Mr John Harvey-Jones, chairman of ICL, is flying to Moscow today for discussions with Soviet officials about ways of developing trade with their country.

It is the first visit to the Soviet Union for 10 years by a director of ICL, one of Britain's biggest companies.

Mr Harvey-Jones, who speaks Russian, will be meeting the prime minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, and four deputy prime ministers, including Mr Leonid Kostanov who visited ICL's plant on Teesside last year.

It was understood they discussed a proposal already rejected by Mr Harrington, of polytechnic, to open a joint venture in the Soviet Union.

The discussions are expected to centre on how ICL can contribute to the Soviet agricultural production through the provision of primate technology - a way of making protein for animal feed from natural gas.

400 students barricade Poly in NF dispute

By Patricia Clough

About 400 students barricaded themselves inside a building and a photographer was beaten up as a National Front member, armed with a High Court injunction, arrived at North London Polytechnic yesterday.

Mr Patrick Harrington, aged 19, treasurer and organizer of the Front's Kensington and Chelsea branch, met Mr David Coone, the polytechnic's assistant director, about his intention to study philosophy at the polytechnic in spite of opposition from the student union.

It was understood they discussed a proposal already rejected by Mr Harrington, of polytechnic, to open a joint venture in the Soviet Union.

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Zola Budd giving up South African citizenship

By Pat Butcher

Zola Budd will renounce her South African citizenship this week in a final attempt to be accepted as a fully British athlete with the freedom to compete abroad, including this summer's Olympic Games, should she be selected.

The impetus for Miss Budd's renunciation - which, since she is a minor, has to be made with her father - comes from the future over her participation in a road race 10 days ago in Norway, which does not permit sporting links with South African citizens.

Sven-Arne Hansen, one of the Oslo organizers, who was in London for the marathon last weekend, doubted whether Miss Budd would be allowed to compete in any other European country, since there are similar proscriptions.

An official of the British Amateur Athletic Board confirmed yesterday that the move was imminent. The formal renunciation will probably be made either today or tomorrow, in an attempt to undermine the criticism of Miss Budd and her backers expected in Thames Television's *TV Eye* programme, due tomorrow.

Sam Ramsamy, head of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (San-Roc), the organization which feels most strongly that Miss Budd's move to Britain was simply as an Olympic convenience, said yesterday: "It is a step in the right direction."

The South African Ministry of Internal Affairs confirmed that the discretionary powers to take away South African citizenship from someone who had gone overseas and been given a foreign passport did not apply to Miss Budd, since she was under 21 (she will be 18 next week), but that she could renounce South African citizenship in making a formal application jointly with her father.

First aid: An injured policeman being helped to safety by colleagues after clashes with miners.

Tass styles Shultz as 'half-wit' on Olympics

From Richard Owen
Moscow

As reacriminations echoed in the corridors of Western embassies here over diplomats' failure to foresee a Soviet boycott of the Los Angeles Olympic Games, Tass yesterday accused Mr George Shultz, the United States Secretary of State, of "playing the half-wit" by pretending not to understand Moscow's motives.

Tass said the State Department had obviously decided it was better to "play simple and half-wits" than to face up to the bitter truth that the Reagan administration had made it impossible for Soviet athletes to take part in the Games.

Mr Shultz and other officials said they could not understand what Moscow wanted, yet President Reagan himself had conceded the Soviet case by giving Senator Juan Antonio Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), assurances that the Olympic Charter would be strictly observed.

On Monday, Mr Mart Gramov, the head of the Soviet Olympic Committee, dashed hopes of a last-minute change of mind by declaring that Moscow's decision not to attend was irrevocable.

Mr Gramov succeeded the disgraced Sergei Pavlov as head of the Soviet Sports and Olympic Committees in January last year and has skillfully guided Moscow's growing campaign against the Los Angeles Games. But he denied that Russia had planned a boycott all along, had coordinated strategy (including Olympiad) with its allies or intended to stay away from the 1988 games in South Korea.

Instead, Mr Gramov, who will attend an emergency IOC meeting in Lausanne on Friday, gave the impression that the decision had been in the balance until late April, when the State Department flatly rejected a joint approach over alleged American violations of the Olympic Charter from the Russians, the IOC and the Los Angeles organizers.

This was the "last straw," and had precipitated Moscow's decision, Mr Gramov said. He had earlier indicated at a press conference in April that Moscow would not decide whether to go until the end of May.

Some diplomats maintained yesterday that there had still been time to persuade the Russians to attend even after their boycott announcement a week ago, which appeared to leave open a loophole and was interpreted by officials only as a "serious expression of concern".

• **VALLETTA:** Senator Sammaranch, the IOC president, said yesterday he still hoped to persuade Moscow to reverse its decision to boycott the Los Angeles Olympics (Reuters reports). Arriving for a meeting of Council of Europe sports ministers, he told reporters: "I will keep trying to the end."

• **DELHI:** Vice-President George Bush yesterday appealed to Moscow to reconsider its decision to boycott the Los Angeles Olympics.

Thorn EMI and Bae propose Britain's biggest merger

By Jonathan Clare

The biggest merger yet of two British companies is being planned by Thorn EMI, the electronics group, and British Aerospace, the former state-owned aircraft company sold to the private sector three years ago. The Government still owns 48 per cent of BAE and a statement about the proposed merger will be made in Parliament today.

The combined company would have a stock market value of about £1.600m and would be Britain's fifteenth largest publicly quoted company, employing 160,000.

The surprise news was given to BAE's shareholders at the annual meeting yesterday only a few hours after Sir Austin Pearce, the chairman, told the Government and his board.

However, he pointed out that the companies were compatible rather than competitive in their products, leaving only size as a consideration.

Mr Pearce said: "in my view this country needs large strong companies to compete in international terms. There is, therefore, no reason why this merger should not be dealt with by the Monopolies Commission on size or product area."

The Government has already said that it intends to dispose of some of its stakes in the company and the likely merger would provide an obvious opportunity. About 60 per cent of BAE's employees are also shareholders with a combined stake of 3 per cent.

Schools for blacks shut by Pretoria

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

All six secondary schools in the black township of Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, were closed last night until the end of the year by the South African Department of Education and Training which is responsible for black education. Primary schools will stay open.

Announcing this in Cape Town last night, Mr Barend du Plessis, the Minister concerned, said the decision had been taken with "sincere regret" because of "continued violence and disruption of education."

Most pupils at the six schools had been boycotting classes because of grievances which, they say, the Government has not met. They had been given until yesterday to return. Although students did turn up at one of the effected schools, the others continued to stay away.

The disturbances had continued off and on for several months, involving many clashes between rioting students and police. In one clash a young schoolgirl died after being knocked down by a police vehicle. The latest decision by the Government could spark off a new wave of violence.

Among the demands made by the students are the replacement of the prefect system with elected student representative councils; the ending of corporal punishment; and the abolition of the age-limit regulation which means that pupils over the age of 20 may be refused entry to school.

Blacks often start school late, and many lost a year's schooling during the 1976 Soweto riots.

Reuters' market value

Re.ers, the international news agency and electronic financial information group, could be valued at more than £900m (or as little as £710m) when a quarter of its shares are sold in a complex simultaneous operation in London and New York at the beginning of June.

The prospectus, published as a separate supplement to *The Times* today (pages 29-30) reveals the biggest-ever bonanza for Fleet Street and for Britain's provincial newspaper publishers, who, with their counterparts in Australia and New Zealand, own Reuters' shares.

Although Reuters is best known for its news service, it has achieved fast profit growth in recent years by providing the same money market and financial information with which its founder, Mr Paul Julius Reuter, first launched the business in 1851 Kenneth Fleet and details, page 15

My secretary didn't book me in at the Piccadilly

I'll miss her

HOTEL PICCADILLY

REG'D DEPT OF TRADE MANCHESTER

Hoteles del Norte of England

CLASSIC HOTELS

Banker's widow in fear of execution by KGB for 'betraying my country'

By John Witherow

Dennis Skinner, the British banker who died in a fall last year from his flat in Moscow, was in contact with both the KGB and British intelligence, his widow told an inquest in Croydon, Surrey, yesterday.

Mrs Lyudmilla Skinner, a Russian with British nationality, said that she had been in touch with British intelligence when he made visits to London.

In 1957 he had suggested that she be debriefed by the security services and, after she had signed the Official Secrets Act, they had given her a telephone number. Her husband, who was representative of the Midland Bank in Moscow, would ask her for the number when in London.

Mrs Skinner, aged 39, had told the coroner's officer, in an interview earlier this year that she feared for her life because she had thwarted 13 or 14 years of KGB operations.

"If I have to tell you the truth I will be executed," she told Bertrand Adams. "What I have done is betray my country. Here in Harrow is a woman who has thwarted the KGB. Over 13 years to be branded a woman who has crossed the KGB is highly dangerous."

Mrs Skinner became alarmed in the early 1970s after she told her future husband that the KGB wanted to make contact. She had advised him to leave Russia or end contacts with her but he had just laughed.

She said the KGB had told her they wanted to talk to him and believed that because he was being so open about his affair with her he wanted to contact them. She said that when the KGB approached her "and told me romance was in the air I thought I was going to be sent to Siberia".

Mrs Skinner, who at that time worked as Mr Skinner's secretary at International Computers, had told a Russian

superior in 1970 that he said he knew how the Soviet Union could get computer parts which would normally not qualify for an export licence from the West.

He was soon having regular meetings with a KGB officer.

On Monday the inquest heard that Mr Skinner had established contact with a KGB officer called "Alec" on his second tour of duty between 1978 and 1983. Just before he died on June 17 he told British diplomats that he knew of a spy in the British security forces and that "Alec" had turned against him and wanted him arrested.

Yesterday Dr Mary McHugh, the south London coroner, heard that Mr Skinner also had regular meetings at the Savoy hotel in the early 1970s with a man called "Boris" who she believed was a KGB officer.

Mr Skinner went to Moscow in 1968 for ICL and was contacted by the KGB within two years. He returned to London in 1974 with Lyudmilla

and was made MBE in the New Year's Honours.

In 1976 he told her he was returning to Moscow and had been trained as a banker and had received "some very highly specialized training".

Even though Mrs Skinner was reluctant they went back under "very controlled conditions. I can say no more about it but I'm sure you can read more into it", she had told Mr Adams. "There are pretty obvious conclusions to be made about this second trip to Moscow but I cannot talk about this."

Mr Skinner was again approached by the KGB and set up contacts with "Alec". When his wife returned to London because of London of their two sons' education he would ask for the intelligence service's number on his regular visits.

The inquest jury also heard from Dr Rufus Crompton, a pathologist, who had examined Mr Skinner's body and said that he "could not confirm or exclude injuries caused by assault".

Mr Skinner, who was aged 54, had received such severe injuries all over his body that they could not all have been caused by the impact after a fall from the eleventh floor flat.

Dr Crompton said the other injuries could have been caused by his hitting something on the way down or by two falls.

Mr Skinner's body has been discovered without shoes and with a tracksuit top over his head.

Mr Skinner's former deputy in Moscow at the Midland Bank, Nicholas Burton, said that he had found diaries which showed that Mr Skinner was very unhappy and lonely, obsessed about his health and with drinking problem. But Mr Skinner was far from suicidal. The inquest was adjourned until today.

Mrs Lyudmilla Skinner, who was giving evidence at yesterday's inquest.

Men's birth control role 'forgotten'

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Men need positive discrimination to encourage them to take a bigger part in contraception, a Family Planning Association report says today.

Too many family planning clinics are female territory, which embarrass men it says. Family doctors regard prescribing sheaths as beneath their dignity, and young married men, in particular, stand condemned whatever they do.

If they risk making a woman pregnant they are accused of irresponsible and immoral selfishness; and if they try to obtain contraceptives they are accused of being sexual libertines trying to escape the consequences of their behaviour.

The report, published with the Birth Control Trust, says that men are the forgotten partners in contraception. Yet they need to be given equality, to share responsibility for contraception and to develop the tender, caring and "unmanly" side of their per-

sonalities. Mr Alastair Service, general secretary of the Family Planning Association, said:

There is evidence that women are increasingly dissatisfied with men as companions and confidants.

In the 1960s, the number of men divorcing wives equalled that of women divorcing husbands. Now three women divorce husbands for every man divorcing a wife.

The report says that while sheaths are the second most popular form of contraception, used by 2.8 million couples against 3.5 million on the pill, it is the only birth control for which most users have to pay.

The association is to campaign for GPs to be allowed to prescribe the sheath because it needs less medical supervision its cost is comparable to the pill.

Men, Sex and Contraception, FPA and Birth Control Trust, 37-35 Mortimer Street, London W1N 7RJ.

Talks today on high-rise fire hazard

By Charles Knevitt,
Architecture Correspondent

Tenants' representatives from eight tower blocks built on the same lines as the ill-fated Ronan Point are meeting tonight in Newham, east London, to discuss the partial evacuation of people who might be "vulnerable" in the event of fire.

Sixteen years ago Ronan Point caused five deaths and led to the partial collapse of the 22-storey block of flats.

All 97 Ronan Point families are being evacuated, because the council's engineers have confirmed an independent architect's report, which said that gaps had emerged in the structure, causing a fire risk.

The tenants meeting with members of Newham council is the first of a series planned to keep them informed about steps

to be taken to deal with the problems which have come to light.

Mr Fred Jones, chairman of the housing committee, said yesterday that other tenants wanted to move out, but it would be impossible to evacuate all the blocks. The flats are being left empty as they become vacant.

Mr George Iley, director of engineering, said that he

Teenage sex blamed on media

Media reinforcement of traditional ideas on sexual roles may have contributed significantly to the increase in sexual activity among teenagers during the past twenty years, according to a report published yesterday.

The National Council of Women of Great Britain

The macho "James Bond" image of the tough and sophisticated and successful philanderer - or the aggressive "he-man" philosophy promulgated in some of the sex and violence films etc over the last two decades - leads some teenage boys to the conclusion that in order to prove their masculinity they must either "make it" with as many girls as possible.

The report entitled Sex Education - Whose Responsibility, complains that too many parents still apply a double standard of sexual behaviour. "They consider it natural (and advantageous) for their sons to be sexually experienced - but not for their daughters.

the council is taking to deal with the problems which have come to light.

Government's Fire Research Station had approved temporary measures to overcome the immediate fire risk. Gaps have appeared between wall panels.

Mr Sam Webb, the architect who drew up the report for the council, estimated yesterday that there are at least 5,000 flats in London alone built on the lines of Ronan Point, which

vacant.

Mr George Iley, director of engineering, said that he

should be subject to an immediate structural survey.

Dictionary to computerize entries

By Alan Hamilton

The Oxford English Dictionary, from a, aa, aai, aam and aardvark, through 500,000 entries that terminate in zymurgy, is to be computerized.

It will take 120 keyboard operators 18 months to transcribe the 20,000 pages of the printed edition, and the most advanced computer will take 10 minutes to read it.

The store of knowledge upon which OED is based is stored in the office of Dr Robert Burchfield, its chief editor at the Oxford University Press. In 40 filing cabinets there are three million slips of paper, many in the copperplate of its original Victorian editor, James Murray.

Decay and change of language have accelerated so much that the filing cabinet and the printing press cannot keep pace. Dr Burchfield has kept abreast remarkably well with

his filing cabinets; "zero option" will appear in his fourth supplement, to be published next year.

"acid rain" posed no trouble; his Victorian predecessor recorded it with precisely today's meaning. Computerese such as "bit" and "megabyte" are already relatively old hat.

The new venture, the New Oxford Dictionary, will cost £7m, with a further £1m investment by the British subsidiary of IBM, and a £300,000 Department of Trade and Industry grant.

Much of the research, transcription, and program writing will be conducted by the University of Waterloo in Canada and by the United States computing subsidiary of Reed International.

The OUP sells 1,100 sets of the 12-volume dictionary and its supplements each year.

PC jailed for punch that split man's eye

A police constable who assaulted a businessman with such "chilling and calculated force" that it left him almost totally blind was sentenced yesterday to two years in jail, six months of which was suspended.

PC Brian Renton, aged 28, who had denied causing grievous bodily harm to Mr Barry Carlill, was found guilty by an 11-1 majority verdict by the jury at Southwark Crown Court, south London.

PC Renton, a former RAF boxer, punched Mr Carlill, aged 36, so hard that his eye was ruptured, the court was told.

Mr Carlill, of Burton Street, Bloomsbury, who only had 10 per cent vision in his right eye, had to have the left eye surgically removed. He was forced to give up his garage business and now lives on £29 a week social security.

After the "ferocious" attack at Islington police station, north London, PC Renton asked his colleagues to cover up for him when he saw the blood pouring from Mr Carlill's eye socket. The court was told.

The jury heard how Mr Carlill and a group of friends were arrested and taken to the police station after an argument with PC Renton who was sitting with colleagues at another table.

Judge Mota-Singh, QC told Renton, of Parkchurch House, Grosvenor Avenue, Highgate, north London. This was a very serious assault and one might be forgiven for thinking that to some extent it was pre-planned.

Those who abuse the trust of the community must expect to be punished appropriately."

Mr Lawrence Kershaw, for the defence, told the court that PC Renton would be requesting solitary confinement in jail for his own protection.

On the day the trial opened, May 8, PC Renton's wife, WPC Julie Renton who is stationed at King's Cross police station received a bravery award at Bow Street police station.



Birthday balloon: Zara Phillips, daughter of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips, leaving Minchinhampton nursery school, near Stroud, yesterday, after celebrating her third birthday with friends.

Drug label inquiry sought

Drugs and medicines that may harm unborn children should have clear warnings on their labels, the family doctor's advice to women when drugs are prescribed.

Such advice could be forgotten, or not given properly.

Nursery criticized over death of baby left outdoors

By Rupert Morris

A baby girl aged three-and-a-half months died after being left outdoors unattended for four hours at a council nursery on a cold day in February.

A report of an inquiry into her death, published yesterday, severely criticized procedures at the day nursery, in the north London borough of Camden.

Mr Alan Woods, chairman of Camden social services, described the report as "very damning", and said that he was extremely disturbed by the findings. He would suggest to the social services committee, which meets tonight, that the recommendations of the inquiry should be implemented in full and without delay.

The inquiry, chaired by Dr Robert Dinwiddie, consultant paediatrician at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, pinpointed various failings which may have contributed to Betty Surgey's death at the Minster Road day nursery on February 16, and expressed particular concern that after her death was discovered, no attempt was made to revive her and it was nearly an hour later that an ambulance was called.

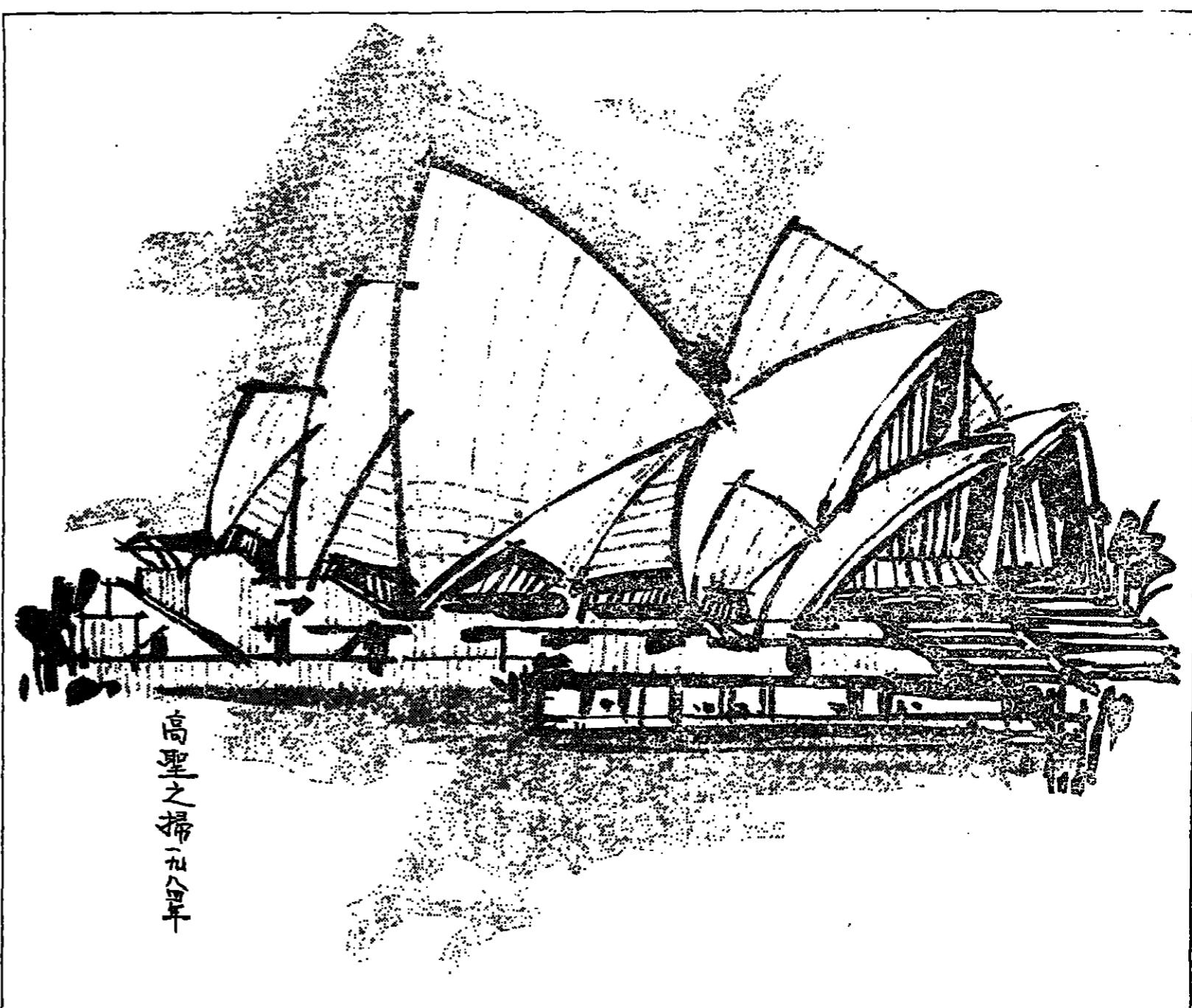
The inquiry found that Betty suffered a "cot death" (defined as the sudden, unaccountable death of an infant), but the fact that a three-and-a-half-month-old baby, just separated from her mother and beginning to be weaned, was left outside in a pram without being handled by an adult from 12.30 pm to 4.40 pm on a winter day when temperatures did not rise above 2.5°C (36°F) may have contributed to her death.

The report said that the baby was left outdoors for too long, in an exposed, windy, cold area; staff failed to appreciate the vulnerability of babies to cold weather and did not check on her properly, observing her only through a window.

The baby was handled by five different members of staff, who, the inquiry found, failed to take the necessary steps to ensure her safety.

The officers involved, who had qualifications from the Nursery Nurse Examination Board, but no medical qualifications, were all interviewed by the police on the day of the incident. No charges were brought. Their names were being withheld by Camden Council yesterday because of possible disciplinary proceedings.

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*Executive Travel Survey

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PARLIAMENT May 15 1984

Why Joseph opposes arbitration for teachers

EDUCATION

Industrial action by teachers was not in their own interests and damaged and disrupted pupils' education, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said during questions in the Commons.

In reply to calls for the pay dispute to go to arbitration, he said that employers had already offered the teachers as much as they could afford and the arbitrator would not have the ability to provide more money.

"I very much regret (he said) the teachers' unions' rejection of the employers' 4½ per cent pay offer. I believe that offer to be a fair one. It strains to the limit the employers' ability to pay and it is for that reason that they have rightly refused arbitration."

I regret even more the damage and disruption to pupils' education which has been caused by teachers' industrial action. I cannot believe such action to be in the teachers' own interests and I hope that they will come recognize the 4½ per cent pay offer as reasonable and acceptable.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Denton and Reddish, Lab): Will Sir Keith Joseph not agree that he was concerned about standards in schools? One of the key elements for this is having high morale among teachers, pupils and parents. His handling of this dispute has done irreparable damage to morale in schools.

Will he agree to send the whole issue to arbitration and ensure something is done to restore moral to teachers, pupils and parents?

Sir Keith Joseph: This problem will not solve itself, but arbitration will not solve this problem because employers have offered as much as possible - in many cases more than they can afford. The arbitrator cannot provide more money.

Mr Kevin Barron (Rother Valley, Lab) asked Sir Keith why he did not fight against the cuts in local authority spending.

Sir Keith Joseph: Because the Government of which I am a member fought and won two elections in 1979 and 1983 when the central plank in its platform was to bring public spending under control and to bring down inflation. We have done that in the interests of every person in this country.

We must not imperil this success by increasing public spending in order to give pay awards. That route would lead us right back to the inflation of the 1970s.

Mr James Callaghan (Hilsea and Middlesex, Lab): Some 50 per cent of teachers earned less than £10,000 a year. It took scale one and scale two teachers 14 years to reach the maximum of £8,000 to £9,000.

He asked for the issue to go to arbitration as these figures compare unfavourably with other professions, such as the police.

Sir Keith Joseph repeated that this would be no solution.

Mr George Walden (Buckingham,

C): Teaching is a profession and the three main characteristics are maintaining high standards; adequate rewards; and no going on strike.

Will Sir Keith therefore continue in his efforts to put together a package that will emphasize the raising of standards and the restructuring of teachers' salaries?

Sir Keith Joseph: Some such possibility is under discussion within the Burnham framework and I hope it will succeed in hammering out a rigorous system of teachers' assessment.

Teachers have and do benefit from a greater degree of job security than other groups.

Mrs Angela Rambold (Mitham and Morden, C) sought reassurance for parents and young people who were anxious about the effects of the dispute on examinations.

Sir Keith Joseph: The evidence so far is that the children who have been taking examinations have not had their work disrupted and I hope, whatever happens in the future, this will continue.

I regret even more the damage and disruption to pupils' education which has been caused by teachers' industrial action. I cannot believe such action to be in the teachers' own interests and I hope that they will come recognize the 4½ per cent pay offer as reasonable and acceptable.

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Success of assisted places scheme

Financial constraints at the moment appear to rule out any significant enlargement of the assisted places scheme for schoolchildren. Mr Robert Datta, Under-Secretary of State for Education and Science, said during question time exchanges in the Commons.

He declared that the scheme had been totally successful in helping children from disadvantaged and poor homes.

Looking at the current position (he said), in the 223 English schools participating in the assisted places scheme, 40 schools have less than 5 per cent, 100 schools between 5 and 10 per cent, 93 have between 10 and 20 per cent and the remaining 10 schools have between 20 and 30 per cent.

Mr Martin Flanagan (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) who opened the session, said of the figures: "This is a surprising outcome as most people think there are possibly one or two pupils on taxpayers' money in these schools, shoring up private schools and cutting the public, ordinary schools for our children."

It is disgraceful that public money - money which should be going to ordinary children - is being used in these schools at a time of cuts, and cuts in other areas of the system.

Mr Datta: Mr Flanagan's hostility towards this scheme is well known. It was designed to help children from disadvantaged and poor homes to have an education they

would not normally receive. To that extent the scheme has been completely and totally successful.

Mr Stephen Dorrell (Loughborough, C): Will Mr Datta look for all opportunities to increase the funds available for the assisted places scheme to ensure that the doors of these schools which were put into the private sector by the Labour Party continue to be open, and particularly to those parents who cannot afford to pay the full fees the Labour Party imposed.

Mr Datta: I agree entirely with that statement. Financial constraints at the moment do appear to rule out any significant enlargement of the scheme. The matter of course will be kept under review.

The right for secure tenants to exchange their homes, provided for in the Housing and Building Control Bill, is expected to come into effect during the summer.

Tenants would not normally receive promotional activities fall foul of the advertising code.

The ASA's most recent investigations include 21 complaints upheld against Sinclair Research. Twenty of them were for failure to fill mail orders for the Sinclair QL computer, advertised in January. Complainants were originally told orders would be fulfilled in 28 days.

The authority says Sinclair's original production targets were not high enough to warrant its advertising campaign, and criticizes the media for failing to foresee the likely supply shortage.

Sinclair did, however, offer prompt refund. Some smaller companies in the ASA's case reports went out of business, leaving mail orders unfilled.

The ASA says that many computer advertisements are published when the advertiser cannot reasonably hope to supply the demand. Some computer companies advertise products before they exist, the report says. The invite orders and receive money for goods they cannot supply for months.

The report says: "The authority is not satisfied that all

'Domesday' plan to protect old farm barns

Farm barns, which include some of Britain's oldest buildings, are under increasing threat, according to a report published yesterday by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

Many are disintegrating and in the first three months of this year the number of applications to demolish barns which are listed as being of architectural or historic interest was greater than for the whole of last year.

However, many have no protection at all and the society wants 10,000 volunteers to carry out a "Domesday survey of every barn built of traditional materials in England and Wales."

The society hopes that if the facts about the barns can be brought to the attention of the Department of the Environment they stand a better chance

of saving them from being demolished.

The numbers had already begun to fall amid complaints that London's exclusive private hospitals were overcharging in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Since the war began three and a half years ago, however, numbers have fallen much further, according to Mr Gene Burleson, chief executive of American Medical International (Ami), Britain's largest commercially based private hospital group.

"The decline has been offset by the number of Greeks, Italians, Turks and Germans coming to Britain, Mr Burleson said. "Embassies that used to

have a lot of staff dealing with health care are now closing those sections down. It is not just the Iranians and Iraqis, but Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Gulf states as well. The Egyptians are still coming, but the Middle East market as a whole is drying up."

Three years ago, he said, 90 or 95 per cent of patients at the Princess Grace Hospital would have been from the Middle East, now it was only 10 per cent. In the Harley Street Clinic, which chiefly deals with overseas patients numbers were down to about 30 per cent.

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Swapo claims Nujoma turned down offer of power in Namibia

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The head of South African military counter-intelligence, General Hennie Van Der Westhuizen, had a secret meeting with Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, in Lusaka, and proposed the formation of a government of national unity in Namibia, it is claimed here.

Swapo sources quoted by South African newspaper reporters in Lusaka, the scene of an inconclusive conference on the future of Namibia at the end of last week, said the offer was conveyed by the General on behalf of Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, in February.

The offer would have required Mr Nujoma, whose organization has been fighting a guerrilla war for the past 18 years for Namibia's independence from South Africa, to give the defence, security and internal affairs portfolios to leaders of the Multi-Party Conference (MPC), a grouping of Namibian political parties.

Mr Nujoma, who regards most of the MPC parties as puppets reportedly refused the deal, but sent his regards to Mr Botha through General Van Der

At the time, observers did not know what to make of this statement, which begins to make more sense in the light of the latest claims.

It also tends to confirm that South Africa is trying to get away from the United Nations procedure for Namibian independence, which envisages UN

Leading article, page 11

Baghdad accused of biological warfare

From Frederick Bonnard, Brussels

Skin horribly inflamed, head and genitals swollen, the body of what had once been an Iranian soldier, fists still clenched in his death agony, was lying on a slab in Ghent University Clinic. It showed symptoms which, according to an eminent Belgian scientist, proved the use of biological warfare agents by Iraq in the Gulf War.

Dr A. Heydrickx, professor of toxicology at Ghent University, said in a lecture at the Belgian Royal Institute of International Relations in Brussels on Monday that his analysis of the symptoms on Iranian soldiers sent to Belgium for treatment proved that they had been exposed to mycotoxins, in addition to the better-known mustard gas and tabun chemicals and nerve agents.

While the latter are easily made and could be manufactured by Third World countries, mycotoxins, which are biological agents, can only be produced by more advanced countries and are therefore presumed to have been supplied to Iraq by outside sources.

The professor's findings are disputed. Mycotoxins are difficult to trace because they fade within four weeks but they affect humans very differently to

Iraq denies hitting Kuwaiti tankers

Kuwait (Reuter) -

The Kuwaiti Cabinet held an emergency session yesterday to discuss attacks on two Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Gulf and the country's Parliament called on the Government to react firmly.

Shaikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah, the Foreign Minister, said after the meeting that investigations into the attacks would be concluded later.

The Kuwaiti tanker Bahrah was hit by an unidentified plane east of the Saudi coast on Monday and the Umm Casbah, also Kuwait-owned, was hit in the same area the day before.

Iraq has usually claimed responsibility for attacking ships in the Gulf but denied hitting the vessels belonging to Kuwait, one of its strongest financial backers in the Gulf war. Saudi Defence and Aviation Minister, Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz, was due in Kuwait last night for talks expected to deal with the recent attacks, including two on Saudi tankers.

Afghan resistance fighters have recently been reported to have requested supplies of gas masks. The victims of the so-called "yellow rain" agents, alleged to have been used in Cambodia and Laos, had also shown similar symptoms, according to Dr Heydrickx.

BRUSSELS: The European Community agreed in principle yesterday to ban exports of five compounds used to make chemical weapons (AP reports). Several members have already imposed individual bans, and others are planning to do so, the French Minister for European Affairs, M Roland Dumas, told reporters

Heseltine in Brussels

New will on arms

From Our Correspondent, Brussels

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Defence Secretary, said here yesterday that there was a new mood in Europe to secure greater cooperation in armaments procurement. This should improve the two-way street of arms production between the United States and Europe now running at about 7 to 1 in favour of the US at present.

He was speaking after a meeting of Nato's European defence ministers in a body called Eurogroup, of which he is this year's chairman.

It was important, in the interest of decisions to be taken now, to ensure that European groupings could be created before weapon systems were in the research and development stage, let alone in production. This, he said, was the only way European industry could remain in the forefront of technology in the defence field.

He referred to a resolution by the independent European pro-

gramme group, which meets at senior official level and, unlike Eurogroup, also includes France, as an example of the way Europe was moving.

The resolution states that the increasing political will to cooperate should now be transformed into concrete action and that national armaments planning should be based on European solutions.

This needed government to go to government cooperation to coordinate major equipment replacement schedules as a prerequisite for industry-to-industry cooperation.

A European defence industrial group consisting of representatives of European industrial companies has been formed.

An Israeli embassy spokesman said there was no contact whatsoever between the Israeli Government and the present Iranian regime.

Hart pins his hope on Oregon

From Nicholas Ashford

Washington Senator Gary Hart, mounting a vigorous last-ditch campaign against Mr Walter Mondale, his main rival for the Democratic nomination, yesterday hoped to notch up two more primary victories in Oregon and Nebraska.

Mr Hart, who appeared buoyant after his recent upset defeat of Mr Mondale in Ohio and Indiana, was strongly favoured to win in Oregon, where 43 delegates were at stake.

The Colorado senator had mounted an active campaign in the state which used to play a big role in presidential politics between the 1940s and 1960s, whereas Mr Mondale had ignored it, preferring to concentrate his dwindling funds on the blockbuster primary, which takes place in neighbouring California on June 5.

Mr Hart was also given the edge in Nebraska, where 24 delegates will be pledged on the basis of yesterday's voting.

The Hart camp hoped that wins in yesterday's races would strengthen his hand.

Jackson five, page 8

Central America sours de la Madrid greeting

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

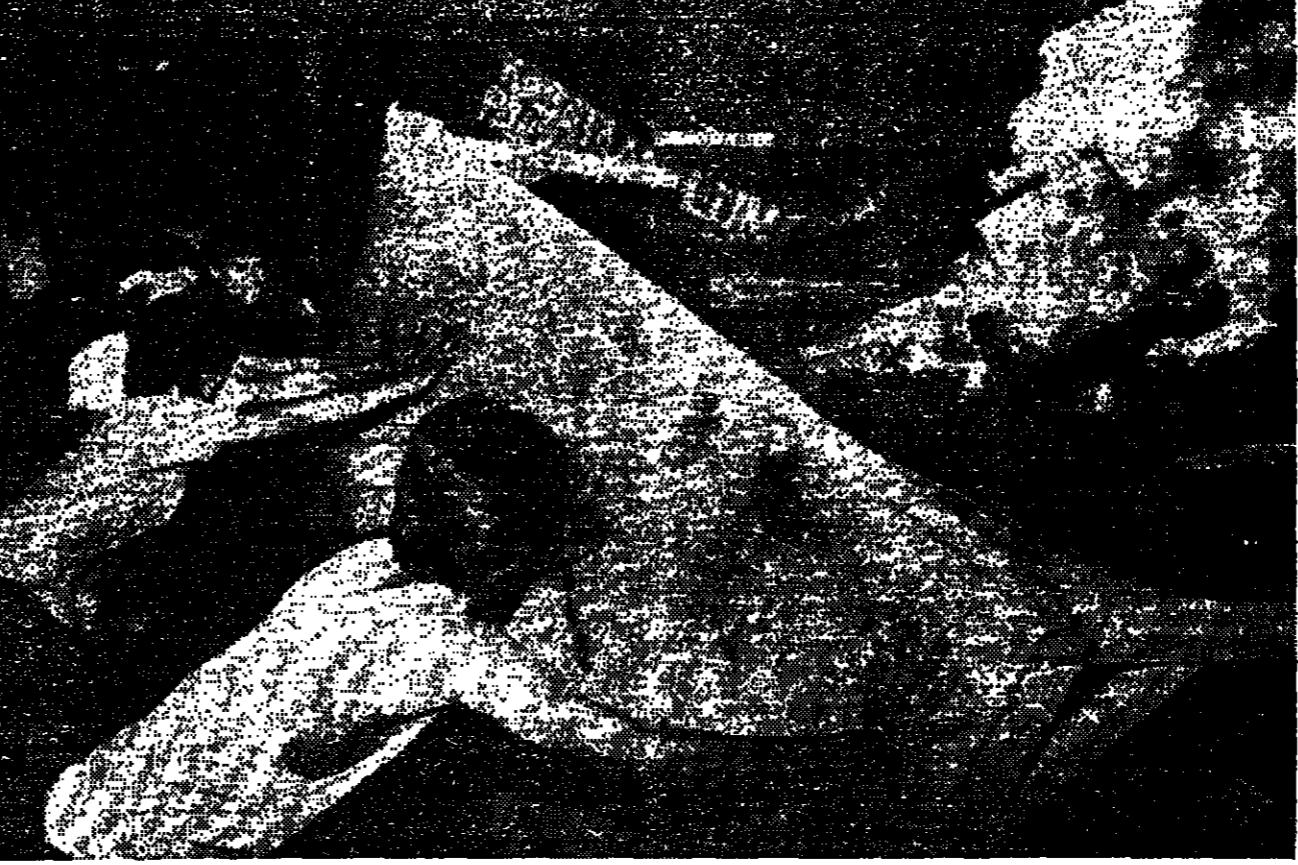
President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico began his first state visit to the United States yesterday on a note of tension between the two countries over the crisis in Central America.

Officials of both governments concede that there is little prospect of closing the gap during the Mexican President's three-day trip.

The Central American crisis will dominate the visit, although during talks with President Reagan at the White House yesterday there was discussion of trade problems and the effect of high interest rates. Mexico has imposed severe economic measures to meet interest payments on its external debt of \$80 billion (£57 billion).

President Reagan's welcoming speech also contained some barbs. "For the United States the conflagration in Central America appears too close to ignore," he said. "Like a fire in one's neighbourhood, this threat should be of concern to every nation in the hemisphere."

He did not mention Nicaragua or Cuba by name, but referred to those who poured petrol on to the fires that earlier this year, said it would appeal.



In fiery mood: A protest blaze is lit against alleged efforts to tamper with Philippines poll results.

Shaken Marcos poised to lose Manila

From Our Special Correspondent, Manila

Philippine voters have given President Ferdinand Marcos notice that his imperial style of government must change.

With about half the votes counted in the country's general elections, opposition parties have made dramatic gains in urban areas, even in the face of widespread manipulation and intimidation of voters on both sides.

The opposition is expected to win a majority of the Manila seats according to unofficial results.

President Marcos admitted last night that the opposition parties could have between 40 and 45 in the 183-seat Parliament as against 13 in the old interim body.

That estimate may prove to be conservative but whatever the final figure the opposition has made itself felt in the cities. Some estimates say its support may run as high as 90 seats but the situation is unlikely to be clear for some time as polling return come in from all over the country's thousands of islands.

"It's a good lesson," said an American diplomat. And I hope it's been learned."

The day after polling day saw the death toll rise to 91 amid allegations of mishandling of ballot boxes and failure to deliver results to the Commission on Elections which is

responsible for producing official results.

Mr Salvador Laurel, a leading opposition figure, went to the Commission to protest over delays in counting and in making returns known. The President himself has urged the Commission to make known its results as soon as possible.

In the business district constituency of Manila, scene of anti-Marcos protests last year, despite the efforts of the President's wife Mrs Imelda Marcos to gain the Makati seat but the President's daughter was handsomely elected in the family's native province of Ilocos Norte.

The Prime Minister, Mr Cesario Virata, won a Parliamentary seat at his first attempt.

Mr Marcos retains the power to appoint his Cabinet and an additional 17 members of Parliament. He also has the power to dissolve the body.

American divorce last year to may the President's daughter. It appears the former Mrs Manotoc failed to gain the Makati seat but the President's daughter was handsomely elected in the family's native province of Ilocos Norte.

Police are not certain, however, whether Gatazka, meaning struggle in Basque, is genuinely new or a front organization for ETA, which has attacked naval targets before.

Basque group admits killing

MADRID. - An apparently new guerrilla group has claimed responsibility for Monday's underwater explosion which killed a Spanish naval rating and blew up at launch in Fuenterrabia harbor in the Basque country (Richard Wigg writes).

Police are not certain, however, whether Gatazka, meaning struggle in Basque, is genuinely new or a front organization for ETA, which has attacked naval targets before.

Hindu violence crosses border

Delhi (Reuter) - Punjab violence spread to neighbouring Haryana yesterday, where more than 30 people were arrested during demonstrations over the murder of a Hindu newspaper editor.

Police armed with batons charged stone-throwing protesters in the town of Rohtak in the Punjab town of Jullundur, about 3,000 people attended funeral services for the editor, Mr Ramesh Chander.

Papers accused

Haiwai (Reuter) - The Herald newspaper in Zimbabwe has attacked British press reports of alleged army atrocities in Matabeleland, singling out The Sunday Times and The Times for criticism. The Herald said these newspapers catered for the British ruling class which saw nothing good in Zimbabwe.

Jazzman's will

Bandleader Count Basie who left his \$1.5m (£1m) estate to his 40-year-old daughter Diane Basie lived with her father in Freeport, the Bahamas. The estate will be held in trust and administered for her.

Connexion cut

MOSCOW - The Russians have withdrawn direct telephone dialling from the West to Moscow as suddenly and inexplicably as they had restored it last week. Automatic dialling was first introduced for the Moscow Olympics four years ago but abolished for technical reasons in 1982.

Australian inquiry on atom tests

From Tony Dubondin

Melbourne

The federal Government has set up a committee to investigate whether any Australians were put at risk by British nuclear tests here in the 1950s and 1960s.

It is headed by Professor Charles Kerr of Sydney University's preventive and social medicine unit. The Cabinet announced yesterday. It has been given just 16 days in which to report back.

The appointment comes after allegations that Aborigines died as a result of secret British tests at Maralinga in the outback of South Australia in 1963.

Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, who is in London, has been assured by Britain that there were no secret nuclear tests.

• British assurance Britain has assured Australia that it will make available all possible information about nuclear tests it carried out between 1952 and 1963. (Simon Scott Plummer writes).

After talks on Monday with Mrs Thatcher and Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, Mr Hayden said that arrangements for the 12 nuclear explosions carried out by Britain between 1952 and 1957 had been "careless if not downright incompetent".

Zhao's 50-year guarantee

From David Bonavia, Peking

"It is a firm policy that China will resume the exercise of its sovereignty over Hongkong in 1997," Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, said yesterday.

Addressing the opening session of the National People's Congress, Mr Zhao added: "To maintain the stability and prosperity of Hongkong will be adopted upon a series of special policies towards Hongkong will be adopted upon the resumption of China's exercise of sovereignty, and these policies will remain unchanged for 50 years."

These policies took into account "the historical and present conditions of Hongkong," he said, while emphasizing the fundamental interests of the country as a whole, including Hongkong.

• Superpower pledge: China

will try to improve relations with Washington and Moscow.

The move came at a time

but never play off one superpower against the other, M Zhao said yesterday.

He blamed what he called the acute confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States for world tensions.

Hongkong firms may invest in Mauritius

By Henry Stasoppe

Diplomatic Correspondent

About 50 of Hongkong's bigger companies are showing interest in Mauritius, Sir Gaetan Duval, Deputy Prime Minister of Mauritius, said in London yesterday. Sir Gaetan and the Industry Minister, Mr C. Pillay, are in Britain with a small delegation to persuade companies here to invest in their country. They see Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, today.

Unemployment - one in five among working population is in need of a job remains the biggest problem facing the nine-month-old Mauritius Government.

The two ministers want to encourage some Gulf states to employ Mauritians.

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Spy's life sentence for selling to KGB

Soviet conquest of valley appears secure but fierce fighting continues

From Michael Hanly, Delhi

The Soviet conquest of the strategic Panjshir valley in Afghanistan has moved to a new stage in the past week, according to western diplomatic sources in Delhi. The flood of the valley is now reported to be more or less secure - although there are still occasional reports of Soviet-backed troops being compelled to withdraw - and the fight has now been taken to the side valleys.

The principal valleys involved in the struggle appear to be those on the southern wall of the Panjshir, and the key Andarab valley which leads out of the Panjshir to the northern

Russian fires on crowd

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

A Russian soldier in Kabul let fly with his automatic rifle at a crowd of people waiting at a bus stand a week ago, killing at least six people and wounding 12 others.

The incident happened at the Taimani bus depot at evening rush hour on May 7. A jeep carrying three or four uniformed soldiers careered out of the Soviet enclave at Kharikhana nearby and drove erratically up to the bus stand where 24 people were waiting. The soldier in the rear of the jeep opened fire, sweeping the crowd with bullets. The jeep did a U-

turn, the soldier opened fire again and the jeep stormed back into Kharikhana.

According to eyewitnesses the wounded included three girls aged 15, a uniformed Afghan officer, several soldiers, a woman with a child and several old people.

One report said that the soldier who opened fire had been startled by the crowd's sudden surge. Diplomats say the more likely explanation is that the jeep's onslaught was a revenge raid for an ambush in which seven Russians died.

Hanoi's search for friends

China syndrome dominates policy

Obsessed with China and heavily dependent on Russia, Hanoi is trying to broaden its international links, as David Watts, South-East Asia Correspondent, reports in the last of three articles on Vietnam.

For a country its enemies claim is on the verge of economic and diplomatic collapse, Vietnam shows remarkable resilience.

Ties with Western countries are cool at best and Vietnam's sources of Western technology are limited to Sweden and the United Nations development programme.

On its northern frontier China threatens to "bleed Vietnam white" with the help of some friends in South-East Asia. Even fellow members of the Soviet block, such as Romania and North Korea, recognize the Cambodian resistance coalition which opposes the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia. The new American friendship with China ensures that there will be no early balancing out of Vietnam's relations between East and West.

The one bright spot for Hanoi's leaders at present is Australia, where the Hawke Government hopes to repeat the historic breakthrough the Australian Labour Party made in helping to open up China to the West.

So important is this "new friend" to Hanoi, in fact, that a mission to search for missing Australian servicemen will arrive this month ahead of a similar American mission which was put off earlier for "technical reasons". The Vietnamese are pointedly allowing the Australians to go straight into the countryside to search for missing bodies, something the Americans have never been allowed to do.

The key to broadening Vietnam's foreign contacts and sources of assistance is the unresolved problem of Cambodia. Get some sort of compromise there and Hanoi could move away from what Mr Pham Van Nhieu, the director of Vietnam's Institute of Foreign Relations, calls "the one option" - the Soviet Union.

"Two options are good and three are even better," he said.

Throughout our two weeks in Vietnam the message from all government officials was always the same: Vietnam was

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SPECTRUM

Presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson has shaken conventional assumptions with his plain, forceful language, but William Greider asks if he can translate that charisma into something more lasting

Is Jackson's jive enough?

Listening to Jesse Jackson's rich metaphors, watching him charm and inspire crowds, I was reminded of someone from the political past, but I couldn't figure out who. Finally, it came to me - George Wallace.

Both Jackson and Wallace are political outsiders who invaded the world of orthodox presidential politics and shook up conventional assumptions. They were able to do that because both are brilliant at the lost art of American politics - speaking to common folk in plain and forceful language.

In some ways, of course, the comparison is terribly unfair. But it poses the right question about Jesse Jackson's extraordinary campaign of 1984, for he faces a dilemma similar to Wallace's. The issue is whether Jesse can translate his flash and charisma into a lasting position of influence, whether he is smart enough to rise above his limitations and play in the big leagues of national politics. In short, can Jesse Jackson become something more than a black version of George Wallace?

Wallace threw a fight into the regular order of presidential politics in 1968 and 1972, providing a voice of protest for the millions who felt ignored and abused. Jesse Jackson, likewise, has aroused millions of disenfranchised Americans - mainly poor blacks who have never voted before - and inspired them to enter the electoral process. Yet, like George Wallace, Jesse Jackson has a disabling stain of character that may well subvert the positive impact he could have on American politics in the future.

Wallace was never able to grasp genuine political power, because everyone in the Democratic Party understood that the core of his appeal was anti-black sentiment. In a less obvious sense, Jesse Jackson now has a similar problem: the whiff of anti-Semitism in his public persona. It contradicts everything he is trying to do and may prove fatal to his long-term political prospects if he does not deal with it.

But, it is the jive talk and Biblical metaphor that makes him so compelling.

"Stop the killing abroad and start healing at home."

"It's cheaper to feed the child than to jail the man."

"America is not one big piece of cloth. America is a quilt with many different colours and textures, all patched together. The genius of our country is that everybody fits in."

"I can talk to the superpowers. I've been talking to the Superpower all my life."

Everyone in the church smiled, laughed or chanted in assent. "That's right. Amen." In the pulpit, Jackson is irresistible, a master of the melodramatic cadences of the black preacher, with his artful repetition and eloquent allusions. "If you want someone who will speak for the poor," he booms, "here am I. Send me. If you want one who believes in peace and lives accordingly, here am I. Send me."

None of this eloquence, of course, makes very good headlines, and the lasting impression Jackson leaves among unsympathetic white voters is, in all probability, as a candidate with glib tongue and not much else. This is wrong and unfair. There is actually a rather high quotient of substance - real issues and well-developed positions - in Jesse Jackson's rhetoric, but it's packaged for the common people, not for the media.

'He yearns to be a permanent force'

Looking back, it is not clear that George Wallace ever knew exactly what he wanted to accomplish in national politics, aside from scaring the hell out of the Democratic establishment. Jesse Jackson wants much more. He yearns to become a permanent political force who can take his place at the inner councils, a responsible power broker and maybe even a serious contender for high office someday. He is only 42 years old, which gives him a wide horizon upon which to imagine his own future.

Jackson's ambitions, though never stated so directly, are obvious when he talks about what he hopes to accomplish at the Democratic conven-



Jive talk and biblical metaphor: Rev Jesse Jackson addresses a political rally in Washington

tion in San Francisco. The party's managers are very nervous about that question, fearful that Jackson will stage the kind of theatrical confrontation he employed as a young insurgent a decade ago. They know that the Democratic nominee must come to terms with Jackson, because his active campaigning for the ticket this fall will be crucial for producing a huge turnout of new black voters. If Jackson's terms are too outrageous, the bargaining might be counterproductive.

That will be the dilemma for whoever gets the nomination. Jackson's dilemma is the same thing turned inside out. In order to demonstrate strength and steadfastness to his followers, Jackson must win some concessions from the Democratic leaders on behalf of his constituency. But if he reaches too far, demanding the impossible, he'll become merely disruptive - a permanent outsider, like George Wallace. It's a delicate proposition and will be a fair test of Jackson's political savvy: If he manoeuvres successfully through the next two months, then he will probably retain considerable influence, whether party leaders like it or not.

The candidate himself seems sensi-

tive to these risks. At the convention, "my role would be to expand our party, not to divide it", Jackson says. "My role would be to redeem and reconcile our party, not to destroy it. People who keep seeing me in the confrontational role are dealing with a stereotype, drawing a straw man that's not me."

Jackson's advisers, led by a brainy young political scientist named Ron Walters, are presently translating the candidate's agenda into tangible declarations that will be presented at the Democratic platform hearings. "My commitment is fairly broad and obvious," says Jackson. "I'm for peace abroad and social justice at home . . ." Will Jesse Jackson make a big floor fight? Will he make demands that would make the candidate jump off the cliff? No. I will be clear, and I will represent the demands of the rainbow coalition, but I don't see that as an angry confrontation.

There are many areas where all our interests converge, and I think that the more problems we resolve before the convention, the better. Most of these issues can be negotiated and settled beforehand."

The principal item on Jackson's list

is the introduction of political reforms that would greatly improve the chances of minority candidates' winning state and local offices. Ultimately, these would influence future presidential nominations as well. One of Jackson's strongest contributions to the political dialogue this season has been to educate everyone on the enduring inequities of election rules - barriers that make it much more difficult for minority candidates to win, even when there are large concentrations of minority voters.

Some of Jackson's positions, like reducing US troop commitments to Europe and Japan, are simply too advanced for Mondale and Hart. My impression is that Jackson won't push such issues to the point of stark conflict. But I suspect he will insist on a new look at American priorities. If Jackson can use his new leverage to move the Democratic Party towards a more honest statement of war-and-peace priorities, it will be a worthy struggle. Conventional wisdom, of course, holds that Democrats must support the military spending splurge, lest they be accused of weakness. But in the crisis-torn world, this deserves to be decided as a matter of deep

This sort of talk does not sound like a man bent on creating a dramatic showdown at San Francisco. It sounds more like a young politician who sees a future for himself, who'd like to deliver a memorable speech at the convention hall that would ignite the party and send the troops marching off to victory in the fall.

If that happens, Jesse Jackson's political influence will be secure for the future. If Jackson's candidacy produces only the kind of conflict and disunity that will help reelect Ronald Reagan, then he will lose his stature. If that were to happen, Jesse Jackson really would be remembered as just a different version of George Wallace.

*© Rolling Stone
The author is national editor of Rolling Stone*

*When all at once I caught a rheum,
A nasty go of damp-linked chills,
Beside the acord-started trees
I shivered in the wind-caused breeze.*

*Gentlemen, my case resists.
I adopt a coupy-opposed position.*

Just a whim-fashioned thought

moreover ... Miles Kington

Now, this is where we must start to call a halt, or to go out and shoot those pesky cupys before they take a hold. This little construction will become a bad habit, a reflex-linked action, before we know where we are. I suspect that we are dealing with an American-derived fad, which is why it is a Tribune-associated phenomenon, that Paris-domiciled newspaper being an expatriate-oriented publication though it is also a European-angled daily. That, if you didn't notice, was an example-stuffed sentence. I find the whole thing a nausea-operated topic.

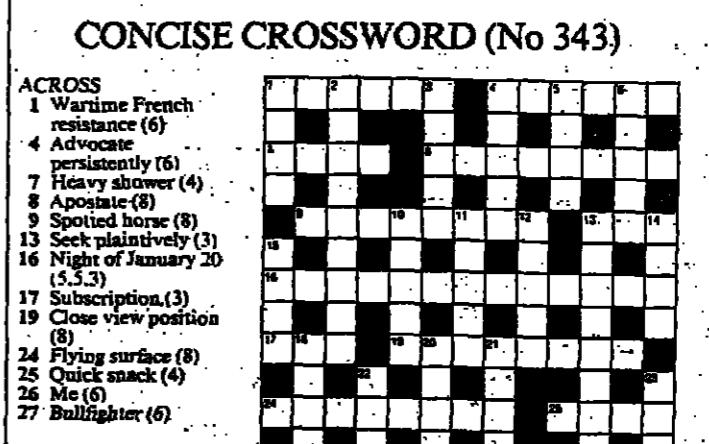
If that sounds ugly, and it's meant to, let me give you an example. "Index-linked pension." A noun, a hyphen, a participle. We all know what it means. It means inflation-proof. Only to make it sound slightly grander, we say that it is linked to the cost-of-living index. It doesn't sound too bad, but then one cupy in the landscape is quite acceptable.

Another now common example is the description of diseases like cancer as "smoking-related". This is an adjective used by scientists who are perfectly certain that smoking causes cancer but haven't finally proved it, so are reduced to saying that it is linked to smoking. Quite unobjectionable, but two cupys in the countryside should cause no alarm.

When a third appears, I do begin to hear alarm bells. It appeared in the *Herald Tribune*, about a month ago. In the run-up to the elections in the Philippines, nearly a dozen people had been shot or otherwise done to death for their political beliefs, or ambitions, and the Trib had referred to these incidents as "election-related deaths". These linguistic cupys are obviously beginning to mate and have strange offspring.

The fourth cupy was duly sighted last week, again in the *Herald Tribune*. (Let nobody think I am criticizing this excellent paper, which is the first one I turn to every morning.) They printed a photograph of a man riding on horseback with water up to his knees, down the main street of a small American town. The presence of so much water, the caption explained, was due to "rain-caused floods".

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 343)



ACROSS
1. Wagonline French resistance (6)
4. Advocate persistently (6)
7. Heavy shower (4)
8. Apostate (8)
9. Spotted horse (8)
13. Seek plaintively (3)
14. Night of January 20 (5,3,3)
16. Subscription (3)
19. See view position (9)
24. Flying surface (8)
25. Quick snack (4)
26. Me (6)
27. Bullfighter (6)

DOWN
1. Spanish surrealism (9)
2. Calcium oxide (9)
3. Bush (5)
4. TV game team (5)
5. Venetian magistrature (4)
6. Soup server (5)
10. Sprinkle (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 342
ACROSS: 1. Amulet. 5. Lump. 8. Eider. 9. Stirrup. 11. Nicotine. 13. Halo. 15. Patriotic. 17. Over. 18. Pentagon. 21. Terme. 22. Bayon. 23. Smog. 24. Trauma.

DOWN: 2. Medos. 3. Sir. 4. Disengagement. 5. Loin. 6. Mordant. 7. Beansprout. 10. Proscenium. 12. Turf. 14. Silt. 16. Theorem. 19. Goyim. 20. Wing. 22. Brn.

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

Ten years after covering the pit strike that brought down the Tory Government, Caroline Moorehead returns to the Midlands coalfields to meet the wives of miners embroiled in another bitter dispute

Villages with hatred in their midst

Mary Barton "belongs" to a Midlands family of seven sisters and sisters-in-law whose miner husbands are on strike. She lives in Duckmantown, a tidy, prosperous looking red brick village in north Derbyshire where the pits have been closed since March 13. Her sister-in-law, Susan, lives 12 miles away in Nottinghamshire coal board territory. Susan's husband's pit, Bolsover, is still open but most of the men are on strike, her husband among them.

The Bartons are a close and strong family and the women are extraordinarily united. "We know now just what it would be like if the pits close". It would be like it is now: debts, children, a bit hungry, all of us rather cold. But people don't realize: the pit is the living for these villages. There is nothing else. What's going to happen to our husbands? Me and my kids will eat grass before we give in...

Ten years ago, in the middle of the 1974 miners' strike, I drove round these same villages, talking to wives. It was the same time of year, still rather cold; the women were at home, rationing their coal in small fires. But it was different then. There was substantial public support for men seen to be battling for a decent reward for an unpleasant and dangerous job and the women believed it was really a question of hanging on.

Now they seem apprehensive, hostile. More than that, the women themselves have changed, and they are proud of it. "In 1974, we still felt our place was really in the kitchen," said Mary Barton, a round-faced, smiling woman who has lived through three strikes, first as miner's daughter, supporting eight people on her wages, now as a mother with children. "Now we're taking action for ourselves. It's got through to us we have to fight too."

This spirit has inspired the setting up of women's action groups in virtually every colliery village in the area, groups of the more organized and outspoken wives who meet in church halls or Labour clubs to make up food parcels for the needy, to prepare leaflets on benefits and rights and to visit other wives at home. Betty Heathfield, one of the main forces behind the Chesterfield action group said: "The day we started it hit us like a bomb. Everywhere we went we found women desperate about their social security giro, about debts they couldn't pay, and furious about 'Tebbit's Law'. That's what got to them, the Government holding back £1.5 a week on the grounds that it's being paid in strike benefit, which of course it's not. They feel they're being attacked, and their kids are not going to eat."

The strike has not been easy

People, said the fishmonger acerbically, are always coming in clutching recipes for fish which is out of season.

Surely the cuttings were old, and the customer had simply not realized. I parried, gamely, but perhaps unwisely in defence of all writers of recipes:

"Not a bit of it," said the fishmonger, lowering his voice confidentially. Publications which should know better go their seasons wrong.

Come, come. Scallops are in their prime just now, said I, with a meaningfully dismissive glance at his scallop-free slab:

"Why yes, they are at their best, and there had been plenty last week, confessed the merchant. But this week had been too cold for scallops. The drivers will not go down for them when it is too cold, you know. What about frozen scallops? He had them frozen.

Ingredients should pose no



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Top: the Harris family. "Our freezer is bare. We eat bacon bits and the eternal baked beans". Above: Steve Harris's weekly social security cheque for 29 pence.

share Sunday dinner with a neighbour to save electricity.

Jane Greenham has only one child, a five-year-old boy. She also has three large dogs - a collie, spaniel and retriever. "A bag of dried dog food costs £7.50. That lasts three weeks. I'm overdrawn £150 and that's been stopped. The dogs will have to go. I've had to borrow school shoes for my boy. There's no doubt about it, Thatcher is trying to starve us out."

The Chesterfield Women's Action group directs its fury against the non-striking Nottinghamshire miners whose backing, they insist, could have brought the strike to an end weeks ago. They talk about their visits to the picket lines with a kind of comradeship excitement, rather as if they were inside a war zone.

"Our freezer is bare, Jennifer said. I now do the washing just once a week. I don't go to the supermarket in case I see things and can't resist them. We eat bacon bits and the eternal baked beans. What happens when our savings go? When the car insurance comes up?"

Last week, after a stormy debate, Labour controlled Chesterfield council allocated £50,000 towards the poorest miners' families. Afterwards some of the women explained why they needed it so badly.

Sara Collin is in her early thirties, a small, tenebrous woman. She has three sons aged 13, 11 and eight. "We used to get about £30 a week when my husband was working. Now we get about £35 in all," she said.

"But the grants always arrive late, so you can't count on anything. My boys now get one meal a day: sausages, if they're lucky, and Smash - proper potatoes are too expensive. No fresh vegetables. No biscuits. Police sometimes accompany men home as protection. In one

village, a young girl working in a colliery office arrived home recently with the back of her jacket covered in spit. Her father burnt it.

Jill is 31, an untidy, unhappy looking woman; she did not want to give her real name. She has three small children and her husband, Paul, who joined the strike at the beginning, returned to work when they realized that since they only rent their NCB house in Bolsover, they could be evicted if they failed to meet the payments. They have just over £100 coming in each week. In her immediate neighbourhood, only five other miners are at work.

"Sometimes I feel guilty. I go shopping and know my husband's got more than most," said Jill. "But I don't see why women should fall out over what's happened." She said that she had been living in Bolsover for nine years and had eight friends. "It's entirely up to them whether they talk to me or not. I'm not bothered." Suddenly she started crying. "Please don't write who I am. I don't think I could bear it. It's been all right till now. I've managed. But what could they do to my children?"

Edith (also a false name) lives in a corner house two streets away. She is a wiry, cheerful woman with an immaculately tidy house. Boy George is playing on the hi-fi. She is also very defiant. Her husband has never come out on strike. "I don't feel a bit guilty - why should I?" she said. "The pits are open, the men can work. I think if you let it bother you, you're lost. I wouldn't tell my husband if I was threatened. He'd come out on strike, but personally I'm dead against it. I think they ought to bring the troops in."

She finds it strange that not one of her five sisters, all married to miners on strike, and all of whom own cars, have been to see her.

This bitterness will not end with the strike. Several women

Weekly budget for a typical miner's family with non-working wife

	On strike	Working
Income and benefits	£36.55	£123.00
Expenditure		
Mortgage and hire purchase	£5.88*	£41.66
Energy	£7.50	£16.00
Food	£23.50	£43.85
Entertainment	-	£23.00
	£26.66	£130.51

*Some payments frozen

THE TIMES COOK

Monica Crawford Poole

Timely scallops

serious problems. The large, unpeeled prawns called for in the second recipe are almost certain to have been frozen and weighing will ideally weigh about 85g (3oz) each without their heads.

Fresh ginger can be found in many supermarkets and green-grocers as well as in Indian, Chinese and other oriental foodshops. Straw mushrooms are a Chinese variety sold in tins for which small, tightly shut button mushrooms could be substituted. Dry sherry can stand in for rice wine, and Parma ham for the more authentic Yunnan ham.

Sautéd scallops with asparagus Serves two to three

6 fresh scallops (only the cushions are used in Hongkong)

1 teaspoon cornflour

1 egg white

1 tablespoon water

12 fresh asparagus spears

1 medium carrot

3 small slices fresh ginger

6 straw mushrooms

Peanut oil for frying

For the thickening

1/2 teaspoon cornflour

1 tablespoon water

1 tablespoon rice wine

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon monosodium glutamate (optional)

Oil for deep-frying

Slice the white scallop cushions into medallions about 1cm (scant 1/2 inch) thick. To improve their flavour and texture soak them for about two hours in a batter made from the cornflour, egg white and water. Just before cooking them wash this off.

Remove any rough lower parts of the asparagus stalks. Cutting the stalks on the extreme diagonal, slice them into short lengths. Cut the carrot into neat slices or use canape cutters to produce fancier shapes. Shape the ginger slices or leave them plain. Halve the mushrooms.

Heat a tablespoon of oil in a wok or frying pan and stir-fry the vegetables all at once until they are very lightly cooked indeed. Not more than half-cooked and preferably slightly less. Drain and keep them warm.

Poach the scallops briefly in simmering water until they are lightly cooked. Drain them.

Combine the scallops and vegetables in an oiled wok. Combine the thickening ingredients and mix well. Return the vegetables to the wok. Add the scallops and dribble over the thickening mixture. Toss once or twice over a high heat and serve immediately.

Steamed prawns with Yunnan ham and vegetables are not in fact steamed at all. They are briefly boiled and even more briefly deep fried. They are very pretty and absolutely delicious.

Remove the heads and legs of the prawns, and the shells down to the last tail segment. Using a sharp knife slit each prawn down the back just over half way through its thickness. Remove the vein of gut. Split the flesh once again, but less deeply, on either side of the first cut. This helps the flesh to cook evenly and the prawns to curl prettily.

Combine the salt, sugar, MSG, cornflour and oil and mix well. Combine the prawns with this paste, using your fingers to coat them on all sides.

Blanch the vegetables in boiling water. Roll one prawn round a piece of each of the stuffing ingredients, and secure the pinwheel of fish with a toothpick. Drop the prawns into fast-boiling water to which 1 tablespoon of oil has been added. Cook them covered, until they are very lightly done. Drain and keep them warm.

Heat enough oil to deep-fry the prawns in a wok or saucepan and when it is very hot, plunge in the prawns for literally only one or two seconds. Drain them immediately, and keep them warm.

Combine the thickening ingredients and mix them well. Add the prawns to the heated oiled wok and dribble the thickening over them. Toss together once or twice and serve immediately.

Vive l'ORANGE! Félicitations à nos collègues d'infotec France pour les dix ans de la société.

Patricia Clough on the anguish facing every parent whose child has vanished without a trace

Until you know for certain

For John Tate, the anguish of the parents of the three north London children abducted this week is all too familiar. His own nightmare began one summer's day six years ago when he saw two girls coming down the garden path wheeling his daughter's bicycle. It had been found by the side of the road, they said. His daughter had van-

ished to have headed for London.

Most missing children run away of their own accord. There are many reasons - a row with

their parents, failure at school,

unhappiness, the attraction of a pop group. Below the age of 14, boys are the more adventurous: Scotland Yard is asked to look for around 300 a year and only 200 girls. But between the ages of 14 and 18, the 1982 figure was 1,600 girls and 1,250 boys.

John Pope, who heads Scotland Yard's Missing Persons' Bureau, says the reasons for this reversal can only be guessed at:

earlier maturity, possibly resentment against parental control, which tends to be

tighter over girls; a small but significant minority of immigrant girls rebelling against arranged marriages.

Given the suffering, not to

mention the trouble, caused by

the disappearance of children it seems strange that Tate is not

done to prevent it. Mr Tate had

this partly in mind when he set

up an organization called International Find a Child.

The police, too, have often

wondered whether to set up a

national organization but have

always concluded that the present inter-force cooperation is sufficient.

All that can be done, Mr Tate

and Mr Pope agree, is to try to

bring home important advice to

parents.

There is no way, they say,

that a secretly deranged person



John Tate: appealing to runaways to let their parents know where they are

can be stopped from seeking to abduct children. But children must be alerted of the dangers of speaking to strangers.

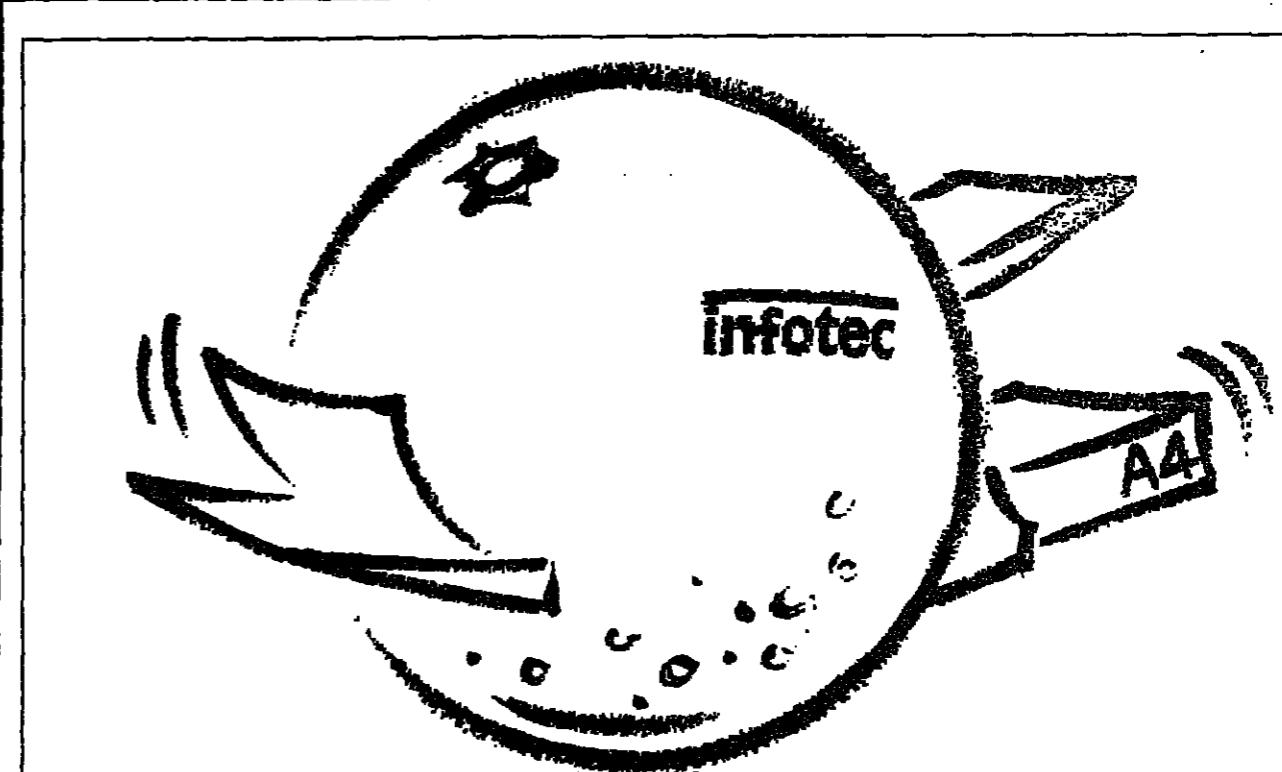
"It is not enough to warn them about not accepting sweets," says Mr Pope.

The Home Office has issued a bookmark for children with a drawing of the wolf in Red Riding Hood's grandmother's clothing on one side and advice on the other side. Always play with friends, it says, never alone. Never get into a stranger's car. Always tell your mum and dad where you will be. If ever you are frightened ask an adult lady for help, or go to a policeman.

Both men insist that it is necessary to exert parental authority. Make sure you know where your child is, and with whom. Fix a time for him or her to be home. Parents should always make a mental note of what their children are wearing, and the amount of money they have with them. "Don't be a friend, be a parent", says Mr Tate.

If a child disappears, the search is assisted by a recent photograph. Mr Tate is campaigning for schools to take annual photographs of their pupils.

He is also appealing to runaways - in cards being distributed to long distance lorry drivers to get in touch with their families "no need to say where you are, just let your family know how you are."



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From war to peace

Count Nikolai Tolstoy yesterday offered the hospitality of his home at Abingdon, Oxfordshire, to two Russian soldiers, believed to be the first defectors from Afghanistan, who are expected to arrive in London within the next month or so. Igor Rykov, aged 21, and Oleg Khan, aged 20, whose identities are disclosed here for the first time, crossed into Pakistan, and from



Khan and Rykov: first of many?

there appealed to the count in his new role as president of Spare - the Soviet Prisoners Afghan Rescue Committee. He is confident that their request for political asylum in Britain will be granted. Yesterday Count Tolstoy told me that more defectors would follow. "But I don't say too much in case it infringes our agreements with the Red Cross". Rykov and Khan should not be alarmed if they spot one of the count's visiting cards on his hall table. Printed on the reverse of his Abingdon address are the addresses of the Moscow flat and country dacha from which the revolutionaries ejected the Tolstoys in 1917 - "just to prove", he says, "that our exile from Russia is only temporary".

Evans above

We shall never know if MPs are liars or not. Tory MP Peter Thurnham, who, I reported last week, was due to be wired up to a lie detector by the House of Commons committee on employment, has been rescued from his ordeal. The committee, which is investigating the use of the polygraph to vet GCHQ staff, felt politicians were "just not right" for such a test. So who is? Journalists, they say. And from *The Times*, my parliamentary colleague Richard Evans undergoes the test at 4.30 p.m. today. *Elo nō vēritas?*

• Hongkong is taking characteristic precautions as it contemplates reincorporation in China. In a book advertisement in the Hongkong-based *Asia Magazine*, one title is marked out of stock: *Your New Swiss Bank Book*.

Lost resort

Hoteliers in Tenby may well spend the first week of July sending Arthur Scargill hundreds of holiday postcards bearing the message "Wish you were here". Not because they love him; far from it. He has just landed them with a potential £75,000 loss of bookings in that period, as a result of the National Union of Mineworkers' decision this week to cancel its annual conference at the South Wales resort. Scargill has apparently decided to axe the event to save money. I hope the sun shines; if the rooms are left empty, hoteliers are threatening court claims for at least £50,000 damages.

BARRY FANTONI



A tartan shirt and pink jeans are hardly my idea of plain clothes'

Kettle-black

Rudi Narayan, the lawyer and black rights campaigner, says some harsh things about Britain's blacks in the *Jamaican Weekly Gleaner*. In an article accusing them of laziness, poor timekeeping, failing to plan, and not believing in "black excellence", he writes: "Although there are many intellectuals about the community, few wish to be associated with their fellow blacks. This arrogance applies particularly to black lawyers". Narayan should know, before being fined £100 at Camperwell last September for refusing to take a breath test, the magistrate heard evidence that he told police they were not deafening with some "stupid local nigger", and said to the arresting officer: "Hawkins, you're finished. You've gone boy, I won't rest until I see you destroyed. Do you know how brilliant I am?"

Lotta bottle

Two Welsh farmers' wives, Thelma Adams and Ena George, will be "floating" through Carmarthen today, hauled by a tractor and trailer in protest about the new EEC-inspired milk quotas. Decorously clad in bikinis, and calling themselves Cleopatra '84, they will recline in old cow troughs filled not with asses' milk, but 300 gallons of cows' milk. "It's cheaper than water", Thelma says.

PHS

Tom Bower on the Nazi war criminal who cheated justice to the end

Rauff: the great escape

The death of Walter Rauff at 77 has robbed the world's Nazi hunters of their last realizable, major quarry. Although secluded behind the high walls of his spacious villa in Santiago, Chile, Rauff was paraded as a spectacular proof of the Allies' failure to punish those responsible for the production-line murders of 12 million people, and the inexplicable ease with which Nazi war criminals discovered escape routes to South America. Whenever the power of the underground Nazi Odessa group was mentioned, Rauff was one of the many listed as beneficiaries of its efficiency.

The South American refuge was the misguided explanation as to why so few Nazi mass murderers were ever prosecuted. Although the exact whereabouts of so many were known, they seemed invulnerable to extradition or even assassination.

Rauff prospered in his exile. His secret refuge was exposed in 1963, but West Germany's demand for his extradition was denied. He remained in Chile, an insult to his victims and their relatives. Only a tiny handful of his fellow fugitives, principally Adolf Eichmann, Franz Stangl and recently Klaus Barbie, were eventually brought back to trial. As the rest died anonymously and comfortably in their exile, Rauff became a surviving symbol of the great Nazi escape.

During the past year, in the wake of Barbie's extradition to France from Bolivia, the Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal and his rivals, Serge and Beate Klarsfeld, had made Rauff the target of an international campaign. The four main leaders of the West, presidents Reagan and Mitterrand, and prime ministers Helmut Kohl and Margaret Thatcher, had individually protested to the Chilean leader Augusto Pinochet, demanding Rauff's immediate extradition to West Germany. Just last week, another demand was delivered in Santiago from the European Parliament in Strasbourg. Uncharacteristically, Downing Street's demand was accompanied by threats of trade sanctions.

But there was never any hope that Pinochet would bow to the demands. Even his Marxist predecessor, President Salvador Allende, had unhesitatingly refused. Rauff's death has, inevitably, saved a lot of embarrassment but it also leaves unanswered the questions of why the co-murderer of 200,000 people should have been allowed to escape by the British in 1946, why he was aided by the Vatican to reach safety, and why he was knowingly protected since 1963, even by Chilean democrats.

Letters between Rauff and his mechanic discussing the technical problems of diverting carbon monoxide fumes from the engine exhaust into the truck's container, and his impatient negotiations with a Berlin chassis builder, are ample proof of his calculated commitment to the creation of a crude yet innovative murder machine.

The first passengers of the modified death trucks were 40 Russians, inmates of the nearby Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Driven for 15 minutes to the camp's crematorium, their gassing en route was deemed in a report to Rauff to be satisfactory confirmation of his work. Rauff immediately ordered 30 trucks and in October 1941 sent the first five eastwards. Their operation was personally supervised from Berlin by their creator.

Walter Rauff was by no means a natural recruit to the SS. Indeed, 40 years after the collapse of the Third Reich, hardened and committed Nazis who were his superiors are still impressed by his unexpected wartime conversion and dedication to their cause.

Born on June 19 1906, the son of a bank clerk, Rauff joined the navy in 1924 and ten years later was given command of the Reich's first minesweeping flotilla. In 1938, his ambitions were shattered. After a messy divorce he was automatically ejected from the navy. Humiliated, unemployed and untrained for anything other than a military career, he telephoned a contact at SS headquarters in Berlin seeking work. Swiftly recruited, he was assigned to establish the necessary SS personnel movements in the event of war.

Plunged into the heart of Nazi conspiracies, Rauff rapidly became enmeshed in the reality of its philosophies. "In autumn 1939, I already knew about the plans to liquidate the Jews," he later told an interrogator. In fact the extermination policies were not discussed until some time later. Rauff's gratuitous confession was prompted by the listing of his name in the minutes of top-secret meetings discussing how the Jews would be herded into ghettos after the invasion of Poland. The key to his swift and apparently effortless admission to those positions of power was the SS chief Reinhard Heydrich - their wives were friends.

After a brief return to the navy, he rejoined the SS in 1941 as a lieutenant-colonel responsible for organizing the technical services. Among his responsibilities was to equip the SS murder squads - the *Einsatzgruppen* - active in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. But the *Einsatzgruppen* leaders



One of the few pictures of Rauff from his later years. It was taken by a cameraman for the Granada Television programme *World in Action* who waited a month for him to leave the security of his Santiago home to go for a walk

complained that despite the zealous dedication of their troops, the daily task of mass shootings was taking a toll on the executioners. Berlin Rauff ordered his technicians to investigate other possibilities. In a memorandum dated June 5, 1942, Willy Just wrote a series of recommendations to produce quicker death and to dispose more efficiently of the "thin fluids" and "thicker filth".

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DIPLOMATS ON PROBATION

The impotence of the police and apparatus of justice in the face of the murder in St James's Square on April 17 is deeply resented. The source of their impotence is the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961) which Britain has ratified and incorporated in its domestic law by the Diplomatic Privileges Act 1964. The effect of these instruments is, with minor exceptions, to grant privilege, amounting to immunity, verging on sacrosanctity, to the persons and premises of accredited foreign diplomatic missions.

There have been calls for amendment of the convention, a review of its provisions by the Government is still in progress, and today the House of Lords debates it. The Vienna convention, it is pointed out, antedates the use of diplomatic cover for terrorism as an instrument of state policy. Is it not time to modify the convention to take account of the lapses into barbarity?

The Vienna convention and 1964 Act, though they now embody these immunities, did not import them into English law for the first time. The legislation in fact introduced a significant limitation of the reach of diplomatic immunity under English law by grading the members of foreign missions. An Act from the reign of Queen Anne, still then in force, pronounced violator of the laws of nations and disturber of public peace (and punishable as such) anyone implicated in serving a writ or process against an ambassador or other envoy or his domestic servants. The origins of that statute, which was declaratory of the law, is explained in its preamble. Several turbulent and disorderly persons had insulted the ambassador extraordinary of his czarist majesty by taking him from his coach and arresting him for debt. The Act affirmed that diplomatic agents were out of reach of the civil law.

That they were also out of reach of the criminal law is attested by the treatment of Spanish and French ambassadors who conspired against the lives of the first Queen Elizabeth.

HOMOSEXUALS AND THE POLICE

It was a small but significant sign of changing public attitudes towards homosexuality when an unexpected band of Tories came forward, in the Commons on Monday to speak in support of an obviously doomed amendment that Mr Jim Wallace, a Liberal, had moved to the Police Bill. The amendment concerned the law that prohibits persistent soliciting in a public place, and the debate had gained an unforeseen topicality from the resignation a few hours earlier of Mr Keith Hampson as PPS to Mr Michael Heseltine. The amendment had no direct relevance to the affair, of course. Mr Hampson has as yet been charged with no offence in connexion with events that occurred almost two weeks ago.

This tacitly acknowledged widespread fears that the police too are ready today to act in this way. It is difficult to prove or disprove, however. It is a more subjective question whether provocation has occurred in a sexual encounter than in a plot to rob a bank, and depends on nuances of dress and behaviour difficult to assess afterwards in court. Mr Wallace would have eliminated all ambiguity, for his amendment would have allowed only uniformed officers to make arrests for importuning. But this would make it almost impossible for the police to act against behaviour which can be of real public offence, and even danger.

The case alleged against the police is not only that they lead people on, but also that they make too little allowance for time and place. Behaviour that might cause distress and offence in a public lavatory may well not be offensive in a specialist club.

WEST AND SOUTH WEST

The failure to reach agreement after three days of Lusaka talks on Namibia was a setback but not a disaster. The fact that South Africa, the South West African People's Organisation and the authorities in Namibia could be brought to the same table was in itself an achievement. There will be more talks, although there was no formal agreement even on this point in Lusaka. And in the meantime the peace-making process goes on; within weeks there will be no South African troops in Angola, for the first time since 1978, and the pressure will be on Angola to start sending some Cuban home. The fact of their departure would take the sting out of the argument about whether there should be "linkage" with Namibian independence.

In some ways it is healthy that the basic differences should thus be left unresolved but out in the open. The real quarrel is over whether independence should come to Namibia under Resolution 435 of the Security Council. Translated, this means there should be UN-supervised elections, which Swapo with its UN-backing would be sure to win, or whether some deal can be worked out that would keep the present multi-party Windhoek

and later of Cromwell and were merely sent home, at a time when conduct of that kind led straight to the block.

An immunity that has endured so long and through such changed conditions is likely to possess high utility. Its essence is reciprocity which underlies the whole edifice of the convention – you grant immunity to the agents of other states, and suffer the inconvenience in order that your agents abroad may receive the same immunity from them, a convenience you find indispensable.

The effectiveness of the immunity is closely related to its ultimate. When the Vienna convention was being debated in draft form it was proposed to qualify the inviolability of diplomatic premises by giving the receiving state a power of entry in an extreme emergency to safeguard the security of the state, or to save life and property in exceptional conditions of public danger. Foremost among the objectors was the British member of the United Nations commission; if these were recognized as reasons for suspending immunity there was no knowing what interpretation weak or malevolent regimes would put on them or what fabrications they would employ. The force of that objection remains.

Even if it were now thought that the balance of advantage for Britain has changed and that we should be seeking restriction of immunity, amendment would be a long and difficult process. The convention, to which 141 nations now adhere, took more than ten years to fashion. Sir Geoffrey Howe this week found more enthusiasm among the foreign ministers of the European Community for concerted anti-terrorist measures than for amendment of the Vienna convention. While we are more concerned just now in Britain with the lawful conduct of foreign missions, many other countries are more concerned about the protection of their embassies abroad from official or unofficial molestation.

This is not to say that nothing can be done. Abuse of the privileged status of the diplomatic bag is one area in which

there might be enough agreement to get movement, especially as the exact force of the convention's provisions are disputed as regards scanning. The matter is on the agenda of the International Law Commission now in session for three months. But most of what ought to be done will have to be done outside the framework of diplomatic immunity.

An authoritative pronouncement would be welcome, after the St James's Square experience, to the effect that the Government does not regard the right of ultimate self defence found in common law and international law as being extinguished by the Vienna convention or the legislation consequent upon it; nor – in terms more appropriate to the fiction that diplomatic premises are an extension of the territory of the state whose representatives occupy it – is the right to react to the use of force. There is no room for dialogue or compromise with a man who refuses to obey any rational, logical, or civilised norm.

Pre-Vienna international law allowed that a person with diplomatic immunity might be physically restrained if that was necessary for the immediate protection of the lives of others, and the same principle should apply in extremis to the forcible entry of premises. The situation at the Libyan mission came close to that, and would have reached it if the shooting had been continued or repeated. But after such physical restraint, expulsion, not criminal indictment follows.

The other line to counter terrorism cloaked by privilege is to make more, and more discriminating, use of the powers already possessed to control the establishment and size of particular diplomatic missions, to object to the posting here of suspect individuals, and to require the removal of any believed to be abusing their status. The fact that retaliation would probably follow at the other end must be accepted as a lesser evil.

When here all diplomats fall 5,000 of them, or 15,000 with their families) are beyond the reach of our laws. But they are here only by our leave.

We do not expect or require countries like Britain to assist in our efforts to topple the Gaddafi regime. We recognise that the responsibility for the removal of Gaddafi and the return of the rule of law to Libya rests entirely with the Libyan people. It is by Libyans alone that sacrifices should continue to be made if freedom and democracy are to be attained.

But we do urge democratic countries to review their existing political and commercial links with Libya and, in the light of recent experience (and our own often repeated warnings over the last two years) to observe closely and control wherever possible the activities of the so-called Libyan People's Bureau in their capital cities.

Yours faithfully,
MOHAMMED-YUSUF AL MAGHARIAF, Secretary General, National Front for the Salvation of Libya, Postlager Karte 030319B, Munich, Federal Republic of Germany, May 10.

It is more difficult now than it used to be for the police to retain the trust of a more diverse and more tolerant public. An opinion poll in *The Sunday Times* earlier this year found that almost a third of those responding would not trust the police to tell them the truth. They would actually mistrust the "man in the street", slightly less. (It must be admitted that both were regarded as immeasurably more trustworthy than journalists.) It is increasingly true that the way the police treat sexual and racial minorities affects the trust in which they are held by the wider public. And so it should.

Although the date of the actual expedition has been fixed to avoid disturbing the wildlife of the moor, there are parties of young people on the moor every weekend throughout the year, practising for the next expedition.

White not wishing to denigrate in any way the splendid idea of the expedition, would it not be possible for other, similar areas of the UK to take their turn? Why not Tees Peaks, Ten Fells, Ten Bens or Ten (?) Bryns? It would relieve the wildlife of the moor and the (less wild) local inhabitants, while benefiting those who have long journeys to the South-West.

Devon teams would gain in learning something of hills and wild places elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
ELIZABETH W. DOUGLAS,
Greylawn,
125 Station Road,
Okehampton,
Devon,
May 10.

At Lusaka Swapo insisted on standing by Resolution 435 and this caused the ill-tempered breakup of the talks. There are some American sources who are prepared to argue that this was a good thing. The complicated deal sponsored by the Americans as leaders of the Western "Contact Group" and sold by dint of much hard work by American diplomats to Angola, South Africa, Swapo and the "frontline states" is based on Resolution 435. The Americans insist that it is still viable and that it could lead later this year to independence in Namibia and the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola (the bull point, in their eyes). If the Lusaka negotiations (not sponsored by the Americans) had agreed to fudge the issue, the whole edifice could have collapsed.

A more complicated analysis is based on the fact that power is delicately balanced within South Africa itself. Observers see Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, General Magnus Malan, the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Setting limits on Libyan conflict

From Mr Mohamed-Yusuf Al Maghariaf

Sir, Your issue of May 11 reported that a six-month export ban had been imposed on a painting by William Hogarth, which was sold by Viscount Parker at Christie's last March. The article also quoted Mr John Baskett, the London art dealer who bought the picture for a foreign client, as saying that the Treasury should shoulder responsibility for interest payments on the very large sum lost throughout that period.

Making good saleroom losses

From Lord Astor of Hever

Sir, Your issue of May 11 reported that a six-month export ban had been imposed on a painting by William Hogarth, which was sold by Viscount Parker at Christie's last March. The article also quoted Mr John Baskett, the London art dealer who bought the picture for a foreign client, as saying that the Treasury should shoulder responsibility for interest payments on the very large sum lost throughout that period.

I agree.

On May 5 last year I sold at a Sotheby's auction a sixteenth-century suit of armour made for Henry Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton. The hammer price was £330,000.

Because the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art, under the chairmanship of the Earl of Plymouth, considered this piece of armour to be of national importance, the Minister of the Arts was recommended to impose a three-month export ban from the date of auction. This was subsequently extended for a further period of six months until February 18, 1984, in order to give British public collections a second chance to raise sufficient money to match the hammer price.

Not until October – five months after the auction – was a public appeal launched by the Armouries who, it was well known, wanted to acquire the suit for the Tower of London.

The sum necessary to secure the armour for the nation was raised just within the deadline of February 18, 1984, but I did not receive any payment for it, either from the original purchaser or from the national Armouries, until April 16, i.e. more than 11 months after the auction sale.

It is, of course, well known that the possible suspension of an export licence is one of the risks of selling a work of "national importance". But this delaying device to prevent sales abroad and to give national institutions a chance of purchasing items at prices below those to which the bidding at auction might have run imposes intolerable inconvenience and unreasonable losses of interest.

If the nation wants to buy something which it considers to be of national importance, why should the nation not pay the proper market price, or at least provide balancing compensation to the vendor for this statutory penalization?

University costs

From Lord Flowers, FRS

Sir, David Walker referred in his article (May 8) to the work of the Jarrett committee on the efficiency of university management. It gives the impression that it will be an anodyne investigation into peripheral issues. This is to misrepresent the matter in three important

academic standards should be considered together as a total and developing exercise which is directed towards improving the effectiveness of university administration, teaching and research in all their aspects. Let there be no misunderstanding on that score.

Yours faithfully,

FLOWERS, Chairman,

Committee of Vice-Chancellors and

Principals of the Universities of the

United Kingdom,

29 Tavistock Square, WC1.

May 11.

Owners intending to sell exempt objects are required to give three months' notice in writing to The Museums and Galleries Commission. Failure to give notice will be taken into account if an application for an export licence is made.

For a number of obvious reasons this requirement is going to be highly unpopular with owners and their advisers. Above all, it runs directly contrary to the policy of successive governments since 1896 to encourage the exemption of works of art as a means of retaining them in private ownership in this country.

Yours faithfully,

GEOFFREY AGNEW,

Thos Agnew & Sons, Ltd.,

43 Old Bond Street, W1.

May 9.

Saving food for charitable use

From Mr Malcolm Muggeridge

Sir, Hearing with horror of the vast destruction of edible food under Common Market auspices, it occurred to me that way of more charitably disposing of it would be to hand it over to Mother Teresa.

She knows none better, where the hungry are to be found; she has her Missionaries of Charity and other helpers all over the world; an appeal from her for transportation would, I am sure, be heeded. Above all, she would have the prayers of all Christians and other believers everywhere.

Might it not be tried?

Sincerely,
MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE,
Park Cottage,
Robertsbridge,
Sussex.
May 11.

Damage to glasshouses

From Lord Sidmouth

Sir, You report in your issue of May 8 the circumstances under which the well-known firm of Thomas Rochford and Sons had to close down their production of house plants. The costs quoted by them illustrate all too clearly the very severe pressure under which the glasshouse industry in this country has been operating since we entered the European Community and since, almost at the same time, oil prices began their upward surge.

Although horticulture is deemed to be part of agriculture and has many interests in common, it certainly has not been the recipient of any significant part of the CAP, and the cost of any surpluses of glasshouse produce falls wholly upon the grower.

When Britain joined the Community its glasshouse growers lost the tariff protection which they then enjoyed against the majority of their competitors, who were already members. Consequently they were subjected to the full force of competition, not all of it unsubsidized.

The result has been much hardship, with the closing down of businesses and loss of employment, of which Thomas Rochford and Sons is only the best-known example.

Yours sincerely,

SIDMOUTH,
House of Lords.

May 9.

Farm reforms in China

From Mrs Penny Kane

Sir, Estimates of the 1959-61 famine in China (letter, May 4) can now be much improved, following the release in recent months of various official Chinese data.

Calculations based on these suggest a minimum of 14 million excess deaths during those years, or nearly two thirds more than would have been expected under "normal" conditions.

Similar calculations undertaken for birth suggest that there were up to 21 million fewer births than would have been expected, though for technical reasons this figure may be somewhat on the high side. Many of the missing births were, however, made up in subsequent years when they helped to create the "birth bulge" of the mid-1960s.

Nevertheless, it appears that Mr Lin considerably underestimates the effects of the famine and its mortality impact among, particularly, the elderly and children, especially female children. Chinese food policies, together with population policies since 1970, have been heavily influenced by the remembrance of the disaster.

Yours faithfully,

PENNY KANE.

As from: David Owen Centre for Population Studies, University College, Cardiff, South Glamorgan. May 13.

Thirdly, the Jarrett study is complemented by an intensive study under the auspices of the vice-chancellors' committee of universities' methods of maintaining their own academic standards. The first phase of this has already been completed, taking the form of the publication of a code of practice for the work of external examiners. Further topics are likely to include the study of both external and internal review procedures regarding degree courses and assessing matters of curriculum, validation, and accreditation by professional bodies.

I must make clear that the Jarrett study and the investigation into

white structure of antiquity and sinuous strength; the fact remains that many of us have found means of saving money by direct action and commonsense measures and I believe the power structure supports us in this.

Yours faithfully,

K. W. ALLEN,

University of Oxford,

Nuclear Physics Laboratory,

Kibble Road, Oxford.

are not designed to take this sort of load.

The advice that the water authorities would like to see the gardeners follow at times like the present is to water with discretion, concentrating on plants particularly at risk and to avoid indiscriminate soaking.

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW SEMPLE, Secretary,

Water Authorities Association,

1 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1.

JEFFREY ARTHUR
diplomacy in the
Persian Gulf

Cinema Political novelties

The British flag is bravely waving at the Cannes Festival, even if the director credits of the two films in competition suggest a Polish invasion. Marek Kanievski's film of Julian Mitchell's play *Another Country* (which opens in London on June 8) was the first film exhibited in competition. Jerry Skolimowski's *Success - Is the Best Revenge* will be shown on Friday. The genesis of Skolimowski's film was a short story by his own 15-year-old son; it follows *Moonlighting* to the extent of being about Polish temperaments confronting British society. Michael York plays the leading role of a successful Polish theatre director living in London with his wife and children. "In part - looks and behaviour - he is myself," says Skolimowski, "but ideologically and morally he is a lot of different people."

The Polish connection continues in *Cal*, which is photographed with an outsider's sense of the exotic, by Jerzy Skolimowski. The film is produced by David Puttnam for Goldcrest, but appears here as an Irish entry, and with an authentically Irish character. It is adapted by Bernard McLaury from his own novel, and belongs to a venerable tradition of fatalistic dramas set against the background of twentieth-century Irish history.

Cal is a 19-year-old Catholic living in present-day Ulster and unable to extricate himself from the mechanisms of sectarian hostility and fanaticism. The film's sympathies are with neither side; rather it sides with people against the war. Bigots, bullies and terrorists, flags, banners, and parades are as perilous on either side.

The director, Pat O'Connor, is himself Irish, but trained in the film school of U.C.L.A. The only sign that *Cal* is a first feature is a tendency to try pulling out all the stops - particularly the touches of Fordian pastoral romance that contrast with the urban horrors. It was well received by the Cannes audience, for whom a British film with overt political content is a comparative novelty.

British politics certainly figure on the screen here. Foreign audiences are intrigued in *Another Country* - which toughens up the socio-political implications of the original play - by our fascination both with class and our cherished little group of Cambridge spics.

The Falklands war figures in *Argie*, directed by Jorge Blanca, an Argentine expatriate and son of the *Semaine de la Critique*. Begun during the conflict and finished under grave financial difficulties, it remains a rough sketch, but engaging.

It is about an expatriate living in London who despises equally the British and the Generals, but is still a patriot. He decides to wage his own war - or at least the pillage and rape part of it. His first rape victim, a pub stripper, turns out to be annoyingly good-humoured and accommodating about it. Their subsequent adventures together, the mishaps and anguish of the man (a beautiful comic performance by the director him self) and the intercut scenes of the war catch the mixture of tragedy and comedy in that strange little piece of history.

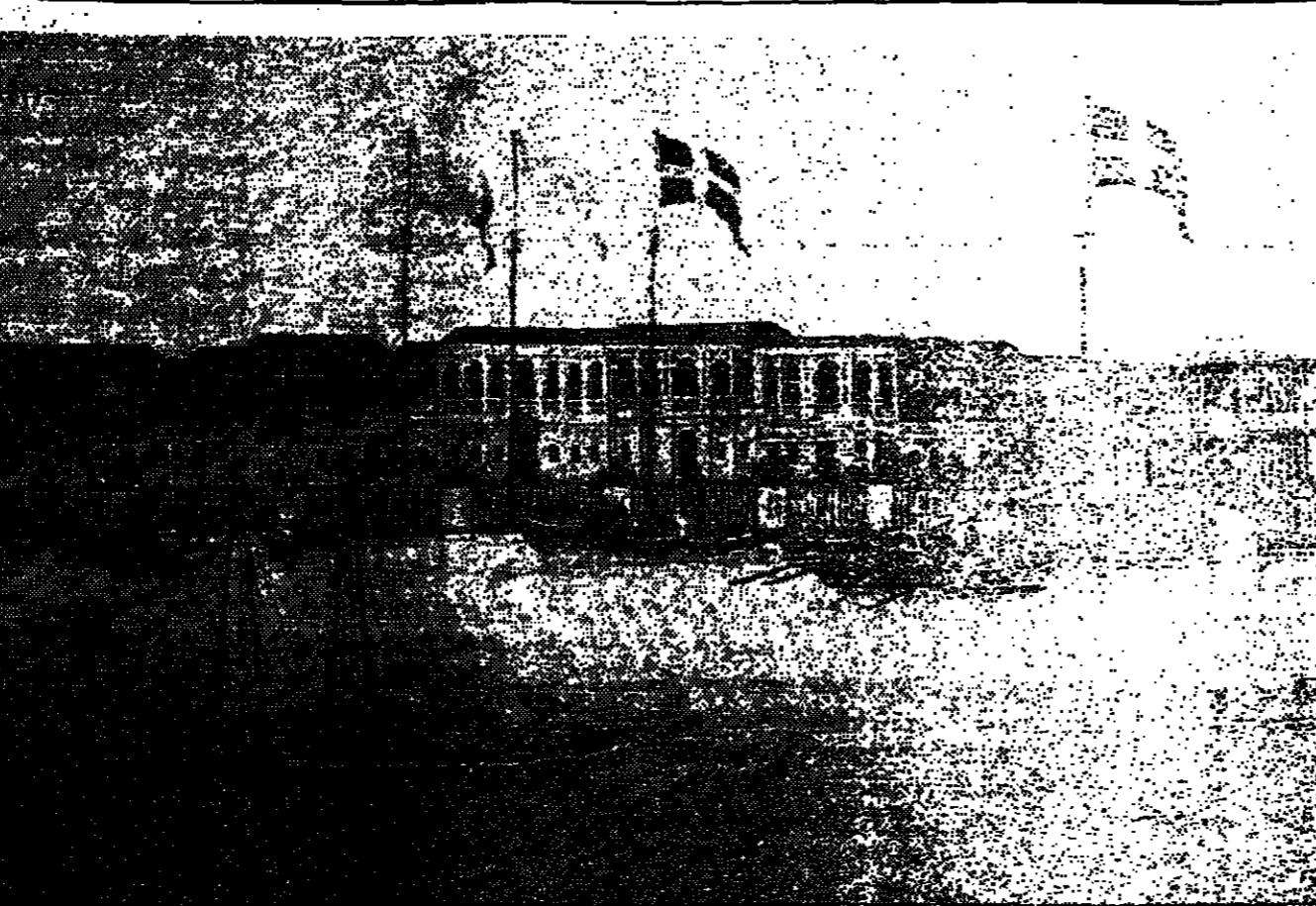
Other British films figure in the Directors' Fortnight: Stephen Frears' *The Hit*, a complex drama of crime and retribution; Chris Petit's *Flight to Berlin*; and *The Bootstraps*, the latest venture of the Merchant-Ivory group, for once not in competition in Cannes.

David Robinson

Black Ball Game Lyric, Hammersmith

Racial prejudice is a nettle that not many comic writers care to grasp, and it was a sad waste when Don Webb's play expired three years ago after a short run at the Tricycle. Roger Smith's welcome revival confirms *Black Ball Game* as an extremely effective polemic - all the more persuasive for holding its anger in reserve - which delivers a weighty civil rights cargo without overloading a tightly plotted and very funny satire on salesmanship.

Through one day of steadily mounting desperation it follows the squabbled manoeuvres of a fly-



Sober but graceful observation: detail from watercolour on silk of *The Canton Waterfront*

Cracow RSO/ Penderecki St Bartholemew's, Brighton

To criticize Penderecki's work in progress is about as useful as to criticize the Arc de Triomphe. It is a national monument and, what is more, it belongs to someone else. If one were to commit the error of considering this *Polish Requiem* as a work of art, then of course it would have to be judged unbearably pretentious.

The apparatus is enormous (four soloists, chorus and large orchestra), as is the length: Monday night's Brighton Festival performance, introducing us to just the "Agnus Dei" and some small fragments of the "Dies Irae", went on for well over half an hour and no doubt when the work is complete it will considerably out-distance the Verdi and Berioz funeral masses rolled together.

It may yet have rather fewer notes. Following his practice of the past decade, Penderecki spreads the melodic material of *Another Country* - which toughens up the socio-political implications of the original play - by our fascination both with class and our cherished little group of Cambridge spics.

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David Robinson

Concerts

soloists, and Andrzej Leonard Mroż the oboist bass; the tenor, William Kendall, matched him in fervour, and so too did the Academy of St Martin's Choir.

The Cracow Radio Symphony Orchestra, conducted by the composer, played their chromatic scales with all the sombre earnestness the occasion demanded. Curiously they sounded even more fired by the importance of their task than Antoni Wit in Penderecki's Violin Concerto, which had no national significance but only the superb confidence of the soloist, Konstanty Kulka, to mask its vacuity.

Paul Griffiths

Mitsuko Uchida St John's/Radio 3

Schoenberg and Schubert represented a thoughtful contrast in the BBC's lunchtime concert by Mitsuko Uchida at St John's, Smith Square, on Monday, which can be heard again on Radio 3 next Sunday. The pianist, now London-based, used a shrewdly judged contrast of dynamics and control of the music's ebb and flow to help point the structure of Schoenberg's Three Piano Pieces, Op 11, one of the first works in which he began to abandon traditional tonality.

She was particularly successful in the attention she gave to the balance of phrasing and the harmonies involved in the lengthier second piece, where the gentle but menacing ostinati in the bass register repeatedly modified the effect of the rest. The rapidly evolving ideas and abrupt changes of character in the third piece were moulded by Schoenberg's new style of piano writing into a vivid tone picture.

The control of dynamic levels was also a feature of Schubert's G major Sonata (D 894), where the wide-ranging opening movement (which the first publishers labelled a *fantasie*) was played with a clear view of its musical purpose, even to a repeat of the repetition of ideas within it. As the quiet appeal of the opening turned more assertive, the pianist skilfully deepened its sonority.

Her control of phrasing gave an almost courtly character to the slow movement, and the minut movement was distinguished by a concern for its moderate tempo as well as for the lyrical grace of its trio.

Noël Goodwin

Theatre

by-night company to net a training and recruitment contract that will put its slimy boss (Des) and his sharp-witted underling (John) into the big money.

The two faces of the operation are summed up in Roger Glossop's set: a hotel conference room first seen ankle-deep in the morning-after debris of a junior salesmen's bano, and then transformed into a severe inquisitorial chamber where the day's six applicants are to be grilled under video cameras.

Matters get off to a brisk liberal start with the hotel's girl conference manager (Carol Drinkwater, in a part much strengthened since the original production) abrasively rejecting the role of Girl Friday

John, to whom Lee Walker brings an all-too-credible blend of aggressive intelligence and queasy self-disgust, is the moral centre of the story: alcoholically rejecting the role of Girl Friday

Fine Arts Brass Ensemble Wigmore Hall

It used to be accepted that, for lack of serious repertoire, brass quintets had to fill their programmes with arrangements and frivolities. With the likes of Elliott Carter and Maxwell Davies having contributed substantial works for the medium, however, the situation is changing but, despite including a new piece that made uncompromising demands on the listener and two others that were rather more than simple entertainment, the Fine Arts Brass Ensemble nevertheless balanced their first major London concert towards light-heartedness, in presentation as well as content.

Having thus criticized, I must at once say that this group's extraordinarily polished ensemble playing easily bears comparison with the likes of Philip Jones and colleagues. In Jony Harrison's neatly titled *Sons transmutans/sans transmutant*, written for them last year, they found an excellent vehicle for displaying the variety of colour available to them. The overlapping and constantly shifting sonorities of the opening sustained unison B flat are cleverly applied, section by section, to an ever-unfolding texture, while the ultimate return to a narrower register is crowned by a teasingly suspended close.

Malcolm Arnold's Brass Quintet has become something of a classic, but is no easier to play for that. This reading had a scintillating sparkle to it, while at the same time the performers were well aware, and made us so, of the uncompromising Teutonic toughness of the first movement and the intriguingly distant sentiment of the central Chaconne. Lutoslawski's *Mini Overture*, the only other original work in the evening, was given with an engaging briskness, and not a hint of pomp.

As for the rest, it varied from a rather laboriously contrived (and, I thought, patronisingly introduced) "Stuart Masque" arranged by Stephen Roberts, the group's compère and first horn, to an effervescent Fats Waller group transcribed by Bryan Allen, who plays second trumpet. He is who made the transcription of the first movement of Vivaldi's Double Trumpet Concerto, and with his colleague Andy Colshaw he brought it off brilliantly.

Stephen Pettit

floundering in a job he despises for a boss he hates, but still capable of escaping notice, standing in the ranks of the unemployed, of which the revised tally takes note. Harry, the black applicant (Hugh Quarshie, the lone survivor of the 1981 production) and Michael Medwin's weasel-smooth Des occupy the fixed positions of ironist and impostor.

Mr Webb's particular success, however, is to combine the absolute patterns of classical satire with the compromises of the real world: so that, even if racism ends with egg on its face, Des still slinks off - stuffing the hotel fruit into his briefcase - to cheat another day.

Irving Wardle

With the individual medical attention, therapy and nursing we are able to give to all our 270 patients, Lynda is now improving.

She can use her arms again, her hearing is returning and our speech therapist is teaching her to talk again. But perhaps the happiest result of all is that Lynda's sunny nature is shining through. Her fellow teachers are amazed at the transformation.

We are a registered charity (No. 205907) and rely upon donations, covenants and legacies. Please help.

Galleries Charmingly commercial

Chinese Export Watercolours

Victoria and Albert Museum

Often the most enlightening shows at the major London museums are those which look no farther than their own attics and basements or wherever (in immaculately controlled conditions I have no doubt) the enormous reserves of normally unshown material are kept. By definition these works are not of absolutely the first rank, or they would be on permanent exhibition, but they are there for some reason, and in any case the Victoria and Albert's second or third rank probably equals the front rank in most other places. The little show of *Chinese Export Watercolours* in the Henry Cole wing is a good Henry Cole wing is a good case in point.

When Western traders really began to impinge on the Chinese consciousness in the early eighteenth century, it was

almost immediately realized that they offered an interesting new sales outlet for all kinds of Chinese art products. Being practical in such matters, the Chinese soon recognized that works made entirely for home consumption might not be to the Western taste, and set about finding what would exert the strongest appeal.

Having worked this out to their own satisfaction (and hopefully to that of potential purchasers), they supplied the felt want with a will. Innumerable artists in the coastal regions were most regularly in contact with foreigners turned out by the hundred scenes of Chinese life which were deliberately exotic enough to whet the curiosity of foreign audiences, along with works trade and mercifully referring to the tea monopoly. The little show of *Chinese Export Watercolours* in the Henry Cole wing is a good case in point.

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illustrations, combining grace and charm with educational value, as well as "miscellaneous subjects" which could take in anything from local boat designs to Chinese ladies' hairstyles, were all grist to the mill. The V & A has recently published a new volume in its Far Eastern Series on the subject of its holdings of these export watercolours and drawings (by Craig Clunas, £8.95), and to match it there is this comprehensive exhibition (until May 27) which shows everything illustrated in the book.

Clearly the Chinese artists involved gauged their export market well, for even today it is hard not to respond at once, like Pavlov's dogs, when they press the right buttons. Whether it is with scenes of delicate fantasy, like the intricate landscape of *Monkeys Picking Herbs* (c.1780), or the sober down-to-earth observation in the slightly earlier watercolour on silk of *The Canton Waterfront*, the charm and grace are irresistible.

John Russell Taylor

their drift, Huston's film is shortly to be seen at the Cannes Festival.

Horizon (BBC2) was also a shade confusing, but then the Laotian yellow rain saga becomes more bizarre with every day that passes. America has accused Russia of using biological weapons, and Laotian refugees are on hand to describe the mysterious and lethal consequences of the stuff that falls from the sky.

The BBC team listened to scientists and anthropologists as well as to politicians and military men. It subjected the American allegations to a scrutiny more rigorous than the State Department considered either necessary or desirable. People have recently suggested that the yellow rain is bee droppings. Pursuing this, and allied theories based on tropical biology, *Horizon* wove a fascinating web of surmise.

Michael Church

Television Posthumous perils

"had been born darkly and tremulously, a soul. It was as if the funeral pyre had proved inadequate to the phoenix."

"Success", boomed the voice, "is like some horrible disaster." Lowry's book, after many rejections and five years of rewriting, had finally been accepted by Jonathan Cape.

"The seagulls were flying again." And the metaphors were getting magnificently mixed. Malcolm and his friends were now "like men whose eyes are being stuffed with potatoes".

Fame, "like a diamond, consumes the house of the soul".

Lowry, former boxer, "disliking homosexuals" and "intensely afraid of syphilis", was not entirely at his ease with women. Lowry: "You're the greatest woman in the world. But why do I have to listen to you?" Woman: "You look like Saint Sebastian. I'm fresh out of halos. There are all kinds of women. Some of them like dogs. Some of them like husbands." Lowry: "God and I see through everything. And we see through you." Woman: "Malcolm. Please! You are sick." Lowry: "I'm a great man."

John Huston has filmed the book. He and several familiar actors have things to say about it, but with *The Rite of Spring* rumbling under their feet, and distraught peasants throwing water on burning shacks in the background (the Midlands Fire Brigade figure prominently in the credits), it is hard to catch

Tom Abbott (below), a Jet in the very first *West Side Story*, has spent most of the generation since then guarding the Jerome Robbins tradition. The show comes back to London tonight: interview by Sheridan Morley

Dramatic unity every step of the way

It was just over a quarter-century ago that *WCS: Side Story* first opened at Her Majesty's in London, and tonight it is back there in a roadshow revival that started out last Christmas from the Leicester Haymarket. Theatre historians now will tell you this was the show which perhaps more than any other changed the sound and shape of the Broadway musical and dragged it unwillingly into the second half of the twentieth century. It was also the show that established the 27-year-old Stephen Sondheim as lyricist (his first complete Broadway score was not to come for another five years) and it was a show that almost never happened.

Its original producer Cheryl Crawford pulled out a few weeks before the opening and six years after the initial Arthur Laurents-Jerome Robbins idea had been conceived, on the grounds that it was no longer the drama-documentary about race relations in New York that she was expecting. At that point Sondheim persuaded Hal Prince to take over the production, but the initial reviews on both sides of the Atlantic were decidedly mixed. On the first night at Her Majesty's Harold Hobson and Noel Coward were seen in heated argument, Coward showing that Hobson had patiently loathed.

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But that score also contains an indication of the staccato urgency that was later to hallmark the best of Sondheim's work ("Could it be? Yes it could. Something's coming. Something good. If I can wait") and over the past 25 years it has been in constant revival somewhere in the world: indeed the last place I saw it was an open house in Leningrad. Certainly it had dated by then: its techniques had been overtaken by the stage-managers of the Sixties, and indeed if in the famous judgment "people beat scenery" then it has to be said that *West Side Story* tends to be a scenery piece and one which therefore shows its age rather more than such later Sondheim scores as *Forum or Company*.

But this is not, of course, the strict sense of a Sondheim score and Jerome Robbins production and what I have in mind is *Her Maj's* an utterly accurate reproduction of Robbins' original staging by one of his most faithful and long-serving disciples, Tom Abbott. Mr Abbott is a theatrical figure of a kind almost totally unknown over here: not strictly a director or a choreographer in his own right, he has dedicated himself across the past 20 years to the detailed recreation of Robbins' work on *West Side Story* and *Fiddler on the Roof* in most of the theatregoing countries of the world.

But this is not, of course, the strict sense of a Sondheim score and Jerome

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Goodison's head will not help the rebels' cause

Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, is facing a growing threat to his re-election next month to the 52-member governing council. As one of the two principal architects of the Brave New World (the dethroned Cecil Parkinson is the other) he is the inevitable focus for the fears and resentments of the small and medium size broking firms whose businesses and livelihoods seem to them to have been put at unnecessary risk.

The 1983 concordat between the Stock Exchange and the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry which saved the Stock Exchange from the Restrictive Practices Court has produced a schism among the faithful. On the one side are the 1,000 members working for London's top firms. Many of them have already reached partnership agreements with large outside institutions and, not surprisingly, they support the changes in the market structure.

On the other side are the 1,000 members working for the smaller firms which are increasingly concerned over the abolition of single capacity which appears to come inexorably with negotiable commissions and the prospect of failing to survive the commercial consequences of what seems to them a revolution taking place with indecent and dangerous haste.

Sir Nicholas is one of 13 council members seeking re-election next month. Nominations are due on June 11 and the voting takes place on June 20. Each member is allowed 13 votes, one for each vacancy.

None of the present council, where senior officials are elected, would stand in opposition to Sir Nicholas. But there is just a chance that his opponents could muster enough support to defeat his election to the council itself.

Sir Nicholas may attend a meeting called for late today by the growing opponents of what is happening.

All council members now face the charge that while each is supposed to be like an MP for a constituency of smaller firms, they have neglected their constituency duties. Many small brokers claim they have never heard from their representatives and thus were not consulted about the changes now underway.

Mr M E B Walters of brokers Schaverien & Co. speak for money in saying: "A very significant number of the council members are partners or principals of firms which have negotiated a 29.9 per cent sell-out. By such an action these council members, having established a 29.9 per cent comfort for themselves and their firms, can no longer have a 100 per cent interest in the remaining Stock Exchange membership and member firms they purport to represent."

He went on: "With the Stock Exchange Council elections coming up next month this issue must be put to the test. Unless, in their re-election manifesto, those seeking our votes give a reassurance of the interests of the small and medium sized firms by referring the Green Paper (the Stock Exchange's own discussion document) back for proper discussion and consultation, it will be right and proper that their position on the Stock Exchange Council must be challenged in the forthcoming election."

Mr Walters said yesterday that his objections have been well received within the membership and that proper discussion and consultation would be one way of de-fusing the rebellion.

It is apparent that at least half the London members of the Stock Exchange, convinced and fervent advocates of change in virtually every other established area of our national life, from the Church to the trade union movement, are themselves afraid and distrustful of change. They would be less than human if they weren't. The real issues are whether their anxieties about the shape of things to come are well founded, rationally or emotionally, and whether these concerns ought to influence either the nature or the pace of the changes envisaged.

It needs to be said that no opposition from smaller firms can roll back the attempt, through the deliberate release of market forces, to make London into an efficient, and therefore, competitive international securities market. To achieve that requires a new market dealing system (almost certainly a competing market making system on American lines). That

in turn requires financially powerful groupings of brokers, bankers and other players. Both system and structure demand new techniques based on communications and systems technology largely unfamiliar to the bulk of Stock Exchange members.

In addition to generalized fear of change, resentment at lack of consultation, and a genuine belief that rapid revolutions end in grief, the smaller firms have specific fears. Will there be a market for which they can to act simply as agents for the clients in the way they know and they believe to be best? Or will they be compelled to become market makers – something they are not remotely qualified to be? Is the only salvation to sell to a big brother, losing their independence and their equity? Will the new technology be available to them on the same terms and at the same time as the leading firms? Why should they underwrite a Compensation Fund that will be exposed in future to new and bigger hazards not of their choosing?

The task facing the Stock Exchange Council is essentially this: to convince its troubled and rebellious members that while the first objective is to raise London as an international market, the second aim is to maintain and strengthen the "home" market in securities. The first does not exclude the second. Nor does it require the extinction of small and medium firms acting solely as agents. On the contrary. With proper forethought and sensible rule-making, in what promises to be an expanding market for both private shareholders and capital seeking domestic British companies, the future beckons them as surely as it does their bigger brethren.

Worth the struggle and the price

The hostility among pension funds especially to Reuter's capital structure has taken some toll. Underwriting has cost 2 per cent instead of 1 1/4 per cent, although this can equally be explained by the longer-than-usual three-week waiting period dictated by the simultaneous issues in London and New York.

It is harder to tell whether that, rather than the fast-changing investment climate, has affected the group's launch value, once put as high as £1.5 billion by outside optimists and now down to £170m at the minimum London tender price. Judging from the suggested range in the New York offering, bankers Warburgs and Rothschilds, not to mention the hand-rubbing newspaper publishing groups, will be most upset if the London striking price is anywhere near the minimum.

Even at that level the two years of complex negotiations and compromises needed to sort out Fleet's shareholdings, secure the future of PA news services through its retained "A" shares and satisfy the need to protect the international independence of Reuters news services have all been more than worthwhile for the economy of Britain's newspaper industry.

Certainly, the Reuters prospectus reveals a company that should find a wide welcome among investors big and small. Reuters is both pioneer and world leader in one of the fastest-growing businesses in the world, serving with rapidly advancing technology, the equally fast-growing worldwide financial markets.

Potential investors should wait for some reaction in New York before deciding what price to bid. For the moment, the US shares will be held via depositary receipts, with a likely over-the-counter quotation. That is unlikely to put off the Americans, especially as an orderly marketing agreement will stop more "B" shares flooding into the market before 1986. And I cannot see British pension funds and insurance companies keeping out of the auction.

The Times 1984 Budget briefing

Last bookings for the briefing on May 22 – at which the principal speaker will be Mr John Moore, Financial Secretary to the Treasury – can be made by telephoning 01-405 3301 (24 hours). The venue is the Dorchester Hotel in London.

IN BRIEF

Queensway bids £7.8m for stores

Harris Queensway, the carpet and furniture retailing company built up by Mr Phil Harris, has launched an agreed £7.8m bid for Leeds-based Bakers House Hold Stores.

Bakers operates 26 self-service stores selling non-food merchandise in the North of England. Harris is bidding one of its shares and £11.80 cash or £15.60 cash for every 10 Bakers shares.

SEARS HOLDINGS is to pay a final dividend of 1.8p for the year ended January 31, 1984, bringing the total to 2.5p (1.87p). Profits jumped by 40 per cent to a record £59.1m. As part of the group's push into the United States, Sears should announce an ADR listing shortly in New York, just a few weeks after acquiring a 115-store store chain from National Shoe for \$21m.

Temps, page 16

Economists urge EEC growth

Call for reflation

By Sarah Hogg, Economics Editor

Europe's extraordinary rise in unemployment can only be reversed if the leading governments agree to a temporary inflation of their economies, according to a pre-summit report published yesterday by the Macroeconomic Policy Group of the Centre for European Policy Studies.

The group, which was set up by the Centre in 1982 after consultations with the EEC Commission, consists of a small number of well-known European economists under the chairmanship of professor Rudiger Dornbusch of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The group's second general report, *The Case for Unusually Growth*, argues that the European economy is now so far below its trend rate of economic growth – a gap of about 8 per cent by 1983 – that a temporary budgetary reflaction is necessary. An "excessive

form of stimulus", the group argues, "would be increased infrastructure investment, with temporary investment subsidies in the private sector and a temporary employment subsidy."

The group examines three possible constraints which might impede successful reflaction, its report argues that there is no danger of rekindling inflation while unemployment in Europe, which exceeds 10 per cent, is so far above the acceleration inflationary rate of unemployment, or NAIRU. This is calculated to be about 7% per cent for the EEC economies. The group argues that there would be no "financing constraint" provided reflaction were temporary, and that co-ordination between the leading economies would avoid the risks to which a single country would be exposed if it reflacted alone.

The group, having timed it

report for the run-up to the London economic summit, takes care to point out the differences between now and 1978, when leading governments agreed to a co-ordinated reflaction at the Bonn economic summit. The results of this policy were subsequently widely criticized. The group argues that there is much more slack in the world economy now than there was in 1978.

However, at a public discussion of the report organized yesterday by the London School of Economics, professor Patrick Minford of Liverpool University attacked what he called the "neo-Keynesian orthodoxy" of the group and argued that previous attempts at reflaction since the mid-1960s had all ended in higher inflation.

CEPS papers No. 8/9, Rue Ducale 33-1000 Brussels.

Flotation is likely to value Reuters at up to £920m

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Reuters, the news agency and financial information group will be launched on the London Stock Exchange at the beginning of next month on terms that are likely to value it at between £790m and £920m and raise about £50m in new capital to finance development.

Up to 25 per cent of Reuters Holdings' capital is to be sold simultaneously in London and New York. Half of this will be offered for sale by tender of 57 million low-voting B shares in London at a minimum tender price of 180p per share.

A further 50-million shares, and possibly up to 57 million, are to be offered in New York on a different system, which suggests a price range of between 200p and 235p.

Employees will be offered a further 3 million shares at 75p each.

The prospectus, published as a special supplement to *The Times* today, reveals that the launch of Reuters represents the greatest cash injection yet for Fleet Street and provincial newspaper publishers and newspaper companies in Australia

and New Zealand. It will also turn Reuters' managing director, Mr Glen Renfrew, and two other Reuters executive directors into millionaires.

The former shareholdings in Reuters were controlled by the Newspaper Publishers Association, representing Fleet Street papers: the Press Association, which is largely owned by provincial newspaper groups and the Australian and New Zealand associations. These have now been split into 27 per cent high-voting 'A' shares, which will retain control of Reuters, but will not be freely traded. B shares, accounting for 75 per cent, which can be sold, have mostly been transferred to individual newspaper publishing companies.

Reuters paid its first dividend for 40 years in 1981. Profits have grown rapidly, reaching £55m on turnover of £242m in 1983. The board, headed by Sir Denis Hamilton, is forecasting about £70m pretax profit for 1984, which would produce after-tax earnings of 10.29p per share.

At the minimum 180p tender price, Reuters shares would sell at 17.5 times earnings and yield 1.98 per cent in dividend.

The group's complex share structure, which also includes a blocking share for trustees, has effectively had to be rescued in an agreement between the newspaper owners designed to guarantee its continued independence, through shareholdings and trustees.

The group achieved a new prosperity in the 1960s and 1970s by returning to its financial origins via new elec-

tronics money market information services transmitted through 33,000 Reuter Monitors video terminals. It is now achieving a second phase of rapid growth by offering subscribers a direct money market dealing service through pressing buttons on desk consoles.

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The group achieved a new prosperity in the 1960s and 1970s by returning to its financial origins via new elec-

tronics money market information services transmitted through 33

Property Buyers' Guide

Land for Sale

CREAMSON FARM DYFED

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Close to A40(T)

Attractive farmhouse; excellent
livestock buildings; fertile land.

149.252 acres in all
For Sale with Vacant Possession

Auction 19th June 1984

BROOMHILL FARM DYFED

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Close to A40(T)

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extensive livestock buildings; fertile
land running down to The Haven.

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Auction 19th June 1984

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Adjacent to A40(T)

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buildings; fertile land.

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Auction 19th June 1984

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Chartered Surveyors

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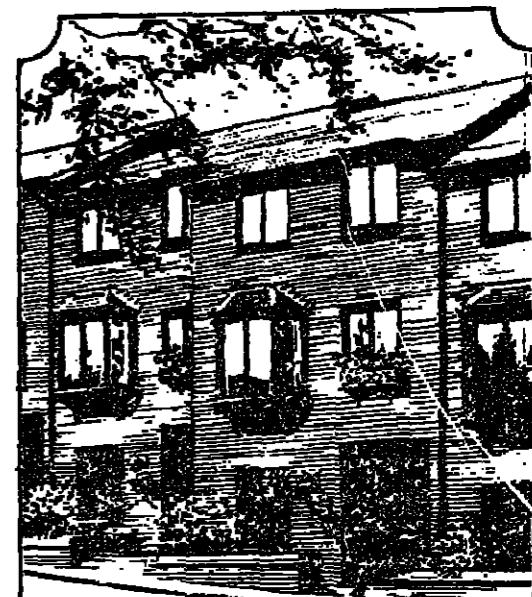
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**BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS
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Announcements authenticated by the Society of Genealogists

THE TIMES
200 City St Read
or telephoned 01-537 2311
Subscribers only 01-537 2311

DRASTON - Deaths: 01-537 2313
Announcements can be received by telephone between 9.30am and 10.30pm, Monday to Saturday, between 9.30am and 10.30pm, Sunday.

GILMOUR - On May 9th, after a climbing accident in the Dordogne, at the age of 27 years, much loved younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Gilmour, Westerham, Kent. Services at St Mary's, Teddington, on May 12th.

HARRISON - F. C., 20, artist at Eastgate, died on May 11th, aged 19, in Dordogne, France, on 12th May 1984.

JONES - On May 11th, at 86 Ashby Road, Waverton, Burton on Trent, Nottingham, died on 12th May 1984. Beloved husband of Pauline and father of three sons. Services to be announced at St Peter's, Matlock, on Friday, May 18th at 3 pm.

**MARRIAGES
WEDDINGS** - For one Court and
Social page, £10.00. Court and
Social page, £10.00. Social page
not to be accepted by telephone.

MAIL - other classified
announcements can be received by telephone. The deadline is 8.30am
on Friday for Wednesdays.

NOTES - Should you want to send an
announcement, please include your daytime
phone number.

**THERE IS A SCRE EVIL WHICH I HAVE
seen under the sun, which riches
and honour have never offered to their
part. Ecclesiastes 8:12**

BIRTHS

ATKINSON - On 14th May to Jane and
John, a son, William John, a brother
to Daniel, a son, and Michael.

BARCLAY - On April 29th to Linda
Jane Palmer and Michael, a daughter.

BOOTH - On May 12th, St
Thomas' Hospital, London, a son,
Peter, a son, for Patricia and Emma.

BROWN - Eastern and Michael, a son,
Nicholas Richard Turner, a brother to Anna

BUCKNELL - On May 2, to Eddie and
Maria, beloved wife of Colin and Alison.

COTY - On May 11th to Caroline (neé
Haworth), a son, Edward, a son, a
daughter, a son, Jeremy, Alastair, a
son, a daughter, a son, and a daughter.

DASPA - On April 17th, at Eastbourne,
a son, Andrew, and Jim, a son, a
daughter, a son, and a daughter.

DE FREE - On Thursday, May 10.
On Friday, May 11th.

DRIVER - On May 11th, in Southwark
Cathedral, London, a son, William Dunn.

INGLIS - On May 11th, at 8.30am, at the
Royal Infirmary, Nottingham, a son,
Nicholas, a daughter, a son, and a
daughter, a son, Jennifer, and Nicola.

MEARNS - On May 14th in Farnborough
Hospital, a son, Christopher Michael,

MCNAUL - On May 11th, at 8.30am, at
the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, a son,
Matthew, a son, for Karen.

POYER - On May 10th to Harry Anne
Poyer, a son, Alan, a son, and a son,
Peter, another to Roger.

REDELL - On May 11th, 1954, in
London, a son, Michael, a son, and a
daughter, a son, Christopher.

RICKETT - On May 11th, to Lynne, a
son, William, a son, and a son, Edward.

ROBERT - On May 11th, 1954, in
Southwark Cathedral, London, a son,
Matthew, a son, and a son, Edward.

SCOTT - On May 11th, to Lynne, a
son, William, a son, and a son, Edward.

SETHURAM - On May 10th to Harry
Anne Sethuram, a son, Michael, a son,
Matthew, a son, and a son, Christopher.

SHILLING - On May 11th to Laura
Shilling, a son, David, a son, and a
son, Alexander, Charles.

STEVEN - On May 11th to Nicola, a
son, Joseph, a brother to Christopher
and William.

SWEENEY - On 16th May 1984, a son,
Lorraine, to Clare, a son, and a
daughter, a son, for Christopher.

THORNCROFT - On April 30th in
Nottingham, a son, Michael, a son, and a
son, Hugh, Frederick, a son.

VAN LEEUWEN - On 13th May, in
London, a son, Robert, a son, and a
son, Steven, and a son, Christopher.

WICHARD - On May 11th to Queen
Charlotte, a son, George, a son, and a
son, Michael, a son, and a son, Christopher.

WILKINSON - On May 11th to Harry
Anne Wilkinson, a son, Michael, a son,
Matthew, a son, and a son, Christopher.

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Men on riot charges after pit rally

Continued from page 1

vehicles - tactics "intended to terrorize respectable working people in their own villages and communities. We have gone a long way down a very sad road."

The evidence had proved that large numbers did produce disorder. For two or three weeks the police had anticipated what would happen in Nottinghamshire's mining villages and the police had been patrolling them and covering them at night. Several pits had stopped working at night because miners were frightened of leaving their wives and families at home.

Mr McLachlan also described what he called "steeping intimidation": when working miners and their families were intimidated every time there was a large picket at a colliery.

The National Union of Mineworkers has warned all its full-time and lay officials that they face disciplinary charges if they encourage men to cross picket lines in defiance of conference policy (Our Labour Editor writes).

The warning is contained in a letter sent out by Mr Peter Heathfield, general secretary of the union. It involves several hundred officials ranging from area presidents down to branch secretary and delegate.

It tells them that under union rules they must carry out the policy of the Sheffield delegate conference which sent out a national call for industrial action and an instruction not to cross picket lines set up to stop the "rolling strike", now in its tenth week.

Officials are advised that proceedings under disciplinary rules will follow if they encourage pitmen to work normally in defiance of the strike call, which could include a ban on holding any NUM office. But the warning is being openly defied in moderate areas, particularly in Nottinghamshire where some colliery delegates are planning to turn the tables by suing their area leaders.

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Villages of hate, page 9

Papal relic

Lisbon, (AFP). - The Pope has donated the bullet which hit and nearly killed him in the assassination attempt in Rome three years ago to the famous shrine at Fatima in Western Portugal.



Happy families: Reunions at the Royal Berkshire Hotel in Sunningdale for Mr and Mrs Robert Jones (left), Julian, aged 9, and Alan, aged 7; and Mr and Mrs Douglas Samuel of Pentre, Wales, and two-year-old Christopher.



British hostages home with jobs in danger

By Richard Dowden

The 16 British hostages held in Angola for 11 weeks by Unita rebels arrived in London yesterday morning clearly delighted to be back but facing an uncertain employment future.

Last Friday they all signed a document at the captor's insistence which stated that they would not return to Angola while the civil war continued. They said they had done so willingly, without second thoughts. Dr Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, personally warned the hostages last week that he would not guarantee their safety if they returned.

The Mats spokesman said yesterday that the future of the whole diamond mining operation in north-east Angola depended upon the Luanda Government's ability to give protection to the expatriate miners. It is understood that another attack by Dr Savimbi's guerrillas would result in the company withdrawing.

"There is no question of mining taking place unless they take all reasonable steps to protect the expatriate company workers," the spokesman said. He denied that the company, which was set up by De Beers, the South African diamond multinational, had any contact with Unita over the hostages.

For eight of them who work for Mining and Technical Services (Mats) this poses a problem since the company operates only in Angola. A company spokesman said yesterday that they were on full pay at present, but the situation was under review.

Another two hostages work for Diamang, the Angolan state diamond company and will now have to seek other employment.

A De Beers representative, Mr Peter Galliegos, is flying to

Luanda next week to have further talks with the Angolan Government about the security of the company's personnel.

The hostages gave direct and good-humoured accounts of what had happened to them.

They said there was no warning whatever when the guerrillas attacked on the morning of May 23.

Mr Robert Jones, the mine manager from Shrewsbury, said there were about 100 diamond security forces in the area and a few Angolan soldiers. "They did the sensible thing and took to their heels. There was almost no returning fire," he said. "Unita had been in the town for some time spraying out the land. They knew where we all were."

The Unita forces were very well disciplined and trained and were highly motivated. They received no pay. They all came from the south; they did not appear to have recruited anyone locally."

Mr Ian Fenton, an engineer from Bournemouth, said the worst moments were when they were first attacked by rifle

and mortar fire.

All the hostages were full of praise for their captors. Mr Fenton said they were helpful and friendly and did what they could for their captives: "Every day the medical attendant inspected us during the march."

Another hostage said they were superior to the Government troops in discipline and motivation.

Mr Popplewell said: "We were both pawns and jokers in the pack. We were captives, but they had to look after us."

Mr Budd Sanders, Mr Ken Moffat and Mr Alfred Tasker, three employees of Defence Systems International, said they had no special instructions to follow when they were captured, though Mr Sanders said their military backgrounds helped when they were trekking through the bush.

Defence Systems recruits largely from the SAS and conducts "perimeter security" operations mainly around oil installations in the Middle East. In Angola the three hostages had been officially employed to help to prevent diamond smuggling.

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